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HISTORY

OF

CRAWFORD COUNTY,

PENNSYLVANIA,

VOLUME I

CONTAINING A HISTORY OF THE COUNTY; ITS TOWNSHIPS, TOWNS, VILLAGES, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, INDUSTRIES, ETC.; PORTRAITS OF EARLY SETTLERS AND PROMINENT MEN; BIOGRAPHIES; HISTORY OF PENNSYLVANIA; STATISTICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS MATTER, ETC., ETC.

ILLUSTRATED.

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PREFACE.

THE material that comes within the legitimate scope of a history of Crawford County may appear commonplace when compared with that which is embodied in national history; nevertheless the faithful gathering and the truthful narration of facts relating to its aboriginal and pre-American period, the coming of the white race to occupy its soil, and the dangers, hardships and privations encountered by its pioneers while engaged in advancing the standards of civilization, together with its subsequent moral and material growth and development, is a work of no small magnitude.

The first settlers who acted so important a part in this portion of the State, and who heretofore have been the sole custodians of much historical knowledge essential for such a work as this have all passed away, but fortunately a few of the men who bore the burdens of the pioneer, left to their children a written record of early days in Crawford County, thus preserving for future generations the history of the first American settlement in the Valley of French Creek. In connection with these records the descendants of the pioneers in every part of the county have been interviewed, and their recollections given due weight in the compilation of its history.

For the convenience of its readers the book has been divided into parts. The outline history of the State was prepared expressly for us by Prof. Samuel P. Bates, a well known author of Meadville. The history of Crawford County and the City of Meadville was written by Mr. R. C. Brown, of Chicago Ill.; while the history of the City of Titusville and the several townships of the county was compiled by Mr. J. B. Mansfield, of Ashland, Ohio. The biographical sketches which appear in the latter part of the book are purely complimentary, and a proof of each sketch was submitted by mail to the subject for correction.

The most authentic publications bearing on early events in Northwestern Pennsylvania have been consulted, and the State and county records have also been freely utilized as reliable sources of information. The scarcity in many instances of authentic local data, has been overcome by a systematic and careful research of family manuscripts and the old newspaper files, dating back to 1805, from which were gathered many of the most important local events that have transpired during the past three-equarters of a century. The private papers of Gen. David Mead, "Reminiscences of the Olden Time," by the late John Reynolds, Esq., the recollections of the

late John Dick, Esq., the autobiography of Cornelius Van Horne, Esq., Mr. Alfred Huidekoper's "Incidents in the Early History of Crawford County, Penn.," and the address of William H. Davis, Esq., on the history of the county, delivered in 1848, before the Meadville Literary Union, were all of invaluable aid to the county historian.

The series of articles contributed to the press by the late Thomas Ruston Kennedy, Esq., were, too, of great assistance to the same writer, which can also be said of five lectures on the Holland and Pennsylvania Population Land Companies, the churches, schools, agriculture and internal improvements of the county, which were respectively prepared and delivered in Meadville, by Alfred Huidekoper, Esq., Rev. Richard Craighead, Prof. Samuel P. Bates, Joshua Douglass, Esq., and Hon. William Reynolds, each of whom extended to Mr. Brown kindly advice and generous sympathy from the inception until the close of his labors.

Among others whose assistance we desire to acknowledge, are the late Judge David Derickson, Hon. Hiram L. Richmond, Rev. J. V. Reynolds Hon. G. B. Delamater, Col. Alexander Power, David M. Farrelly, Esq., Joseph Dickson, Esq., Dr. Edward Ellis and Mrs. Jane Bemus, while the county officials and the leading members of every profession and calling throughout the county were always willing to lend a helping hand in furthering the labors of the historians. Special acknowledgments are due to Francis C. Waid, Esq., of Woodcock Township, for his generous and munificent patronage to the work, and the unqualified interest he has displayed in its welfare. The publishers avail themselves of this opportunity to thank all who have thus aided in the preparation of the work; for whatever of merit the history of Crawford County contains is due, in a large measure, to their assistance.

We undertook the publication of a history of this county, upon the advice and encouragement of a goodly number of the leading members of the "Historical Society of Crawford County," and after more than a year of unceasing toil we present the book to our many hundred patrons, with the belief that we have fulfilled every promise made in our prospectus, and with the satisfaction of knowing that we bring what we guaranteed.

THE PUBLISHERS.

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CROSSINGVILLE P.O.
CUSSEWAGO
SPRING
HICKORYVILLE P.O.
MOSIERTOWN P.O.
VENANGO P.O.
CONNEAUTVILLE P.O.
RUNDELL'S P.O.
STEAMBURGH P.O.
SUMMER HILL
CONNEAUT
HAYFIELD P.O.
COONS CORNERS P.O.
SAEGERTOWN
PENN LINE P.O.
SUMMIT
CENTREROAD STA.
DICKSONBURG P.O.
NORRISVILLE P.O.
HAYFIELD
SUMMIT
LINESVILLE
HARMONSBURG P.O.
WATSON RUN P.O.
PINE
M.&E. R.R.
Conneaut Lake
VALLONIA P.O.
MEADVILLE
SHERMANSVILLE
TAMARACK P.O.
GEHRTON P.O.
VERNON
NORTH SHENANGO
SADSBURY
KERRTOWN P.O.
ESPYVILLE STA.
ESPYVILLE P.O.
EVANSBURG P.O.
WEST VERNON
MERCER PIKE
EVANSBURG STA.
N.Y.P.&O. R.R.
STONY POINT P.O.
UNION
WEST FORD STA.
GENEVA P.O.
SOUTH SHENANGO
HARTSTOWN P.O.
EAST
CUSTARD'S P.O.
GREENDALE
CALVINS COR. P.O.
WEST GREENWOOD
FALLOWFIELD
GREENWOOD
FAIRF
WEST SHENANGO
McCLEAN'S COR.
ADAMSVILLE P.O.
ATLANTIC P.O.
TURNERSVILLE P.O.
L.S.R.R.
JAMESTOWN
WEST FALLOWFIELD

MAP OF CRAWFORD COUNTY PENN.

1885

PART I.

HISTORY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

BY SAMUEL P. BATES.

"God, that has given it me through many difficulties, will, I believe, bless and make it the seed of a nation. I shall have a tender care to the government that it be well laid at first. - - - - - I do, therefore, desire the Lord's wisdom to guide me, and those that may be concerned with me, that we may do the thing that is truly wise and just."

WILLIAM PENN.

HISTORY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY — CORNELIS JACOBSON MEY, 1624-25—WILLIAM VAN HULST, 1625-26—PETER MINUIT, 1626-33—DAVID PETERSEN DE VRIES, 1632-33—WOUTER VAN TWILLER, 1633-38.

IN the early colonization upon the American continent, two motives were principally operative. One was the desire of amassing sudden wealth without great labor, which tempted adventurous spirits to go in search of gold, to trade valueless trinkets to the simple natives for rich furs and skins, and even to seek, amidst the wilds of a tropical forest, for the fountain whose healing waters could restore to man perpetual youth. The other was the cherished purpose of escaping the unjust restrictions of Government, and the hated ban of society against the worship of the Supreme Being according to the honest dictates of conscience, which incited the humble devotees of Christianity to forego the comforts of home, in the midst of the best civilization of the age, and make for themselves a habitation on the shores of a new world, where they might erect altars and do homage to their God in such habiliments as they preferred, and utter praises in such note as seemed to them good. This purpose was also incited by a certain romantic temper, common to the race, especially noticeable in youth, that invites to some uninhabited spot, and Rasselas and Robinson Crusoe-like to begin life anew.

William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, had felt the heavy hand of persecution for religious opinion's sake. As a gentleman commoner at Oxford, he had been fined, and finally expelled from that venerable seat of learning for non-comformity to the established worship. At home, he was whipped and turned out of doors by a father who thought to reclaim the son to the more certain path of advancement at a licentious court. He was sent to prison by the Mayor of Cork. For seven months he languished in the tower of London, and, finally, to complete his disgrace, he was cast into Newgate with common felons. Upon the accession of James II, to the throne of England, over fourteen hundred persons of the Quaker faith were immured in prisons for a conscientious adherence to their religious convictions. To escape this harassing persecution, and find peace and quietude from this sore proscription, was the moving cause which led Penn and his followers to emigrate to America.

Of all those who have been founders of States in near or distant ages, none have manifested so sincere and disinterested a spirit, nor have been so fair exemplars of the golden rule, and of the Redeemer's sermon on the mount, as William Penn. In his preface to the frame of government of his colony, he says: "The end of government is first to terrify evil-doers; secondly, to cherish those who do well, which gives government a life beyond corruption, and

makes it as durable in the world, as good men shall be. So that government seems to be a part of religion itself, a thing sacred in its institution and end. For, if it does not directly remove the cause, it crushes the effects of evil, and is an emanation of the same Divine power, that is both author and object of pure religion, the difference lying here, that the one is more free and mental, the other more corporal and compulsive in its operations; but that is only to evil-doers, government itself being otherwise as capable of kindness, goodness and charity, as a more private society. They weakly err, who think there is no other use of government than correction, which is the coarsest part of it. Daily experience tells us, that the care and regulation of many other affairs more soft, and daily necessary, make up much the greatest part of government. Governments, like clocks, go from the motion men give them, and as governments are made and moved by men, so by them are they ruined, too. Wherefore, governments rather depend upon men, than men upon governments. Let men be good, and the government cannot be bad. If it be ill, they will cure it. But if men be bad, let the government be never so good, they will endeavor to warp and spoil to their turn. * * * That, therefore, which makes a good constitution, must keep it, men of wisdom and virtue, qualities, that because they descend not with worldly inheritances, must be carefully propagated by a virtuous education of youth, for which, after ages will owe more to the care and prudence of founders and the successive magistracy, than to their parents for their private patrimonies. * * * We have, therefore, with reverence to God, and good conscience to men, to the best of our skill, contrived and composed the Frame and Laws of this government, viz.: To support power in reverence with the people, and to secure the people from the abuse of power, that they may be free by their just obedience, and the magistrates honorable for their just administration. For liberty without obedience is confusion, and obedience without liberty is slavery."

Though born amidst the seductive arts of the great city, Penn's tastes were rural. He hated the manners of the corrupt court, and delighted in the homely labors and innocent employments of the farm. "The country," he said, "is the philosopher's garden and library, in which he reads and contemplates the power, wisdom and goodness of God. It is his food as well as study, and gives him life as well as learning." And to his wife he said upon taking leave of her in their parting interview: "Let my children be husbandmen, and housewives. It is industrious, healthy, honest, and of good report. This leads to consider the works of God, and diverts the mind from being taken up with vain arts and inventions of a luxurious world. Of cities and towns of concourse, beware. The world is apt to stick close to those who have lived and got wealth there. A country life and estate I love best for my children."

Having thus given some account at the outset of the spirit and purposes of the founder, and the motive which drew him to these shores, it will be in place, before proceeding with the details of the acquisition of territory, and the coming of emigrants for the actual settlement under the name of Pennsylvania, to say something of the aborigines who were found in possession of the soil when first visited by Europeans, of the condition of the surface of the country, and of the previous attempts at settlements before the coming of Penn.

The surface of what is now known as Pennsylvania was, at the time of the coming of the white men, one vast forest of hemlock, and pine, and beech, and oak, unbroken, except by an occasional rocky barren upon the precipitous mountain side, or by a few patches of prairie, which had been reclaimed by annual burnings, and was used by the indolent and simple-minded natives for the culture of a little maize and a few vegetables. The soil, by the annual

accumulations of leaves and abundant growths of forest vegetation, was luxurious, and the trees stood close, and of gigantic size. The streams swarmed with fish, and the forest abounded with game. Where now are cities and hamlets filled with busy populations intent upon the accumulation of wealth, the mastery of knowledge, the pursuits of pleasure, the deer browsed and sipped at the water's edge, and the pheasant drummed his monotonous note. Where now is the glowing furnace from which day and night tongues of flame are bursting, and the busy water wheel sends the shuttle flashing through the loom, half-naked, dusky warriors fashioned their spears with rude implements of stone, and made themselves hooks out of the bones of animals for alluring the finny tribe. Where now are fertile fields, upon which the thrifty farmer turns his furrow, which his neighbor takes up and runs on until it reaches from one end of the broad State to the other, and where are flocks and herds, rejoicing in rich meadows, gladdened by abundant fountains, or reposing at the heated noontide beneath ample shade, not a blow had been struck against the giants of the forest, the soil rested in virgin purity, the streams glided on in majesty, unvexed by wheel and unchoked by device of man.

Where now the long train rushes on with the speed of the wind over plain and mead, across streams and under mountains, awakening the echoes of the hills the long day through, and at the midnight hour screaming out its shrill whistle in fiery defiance, the wild native, with a fox skin wrapped about his loins and a few feathers stuck in his hair, issuing from his rude hut, trotted on in his forest path, followed by his squaw with her infant peering forth from the rough sling at her back, pointed his canoe, fashioned from the barks of the trees, across the deep river, knowing the progress of time only by the rising and setting sun, troubled by no meridians for its index, starting on his way when his nap was ended, and stopping for rest when a spot was reached that pleased his fancy. Where now a swarthy population toils ceaselessly deep down in the bowels of the earth, shut out trom the light of day in cutting out the material that feeds the fires upon the forge, and gives genial warmth to the lovers as they chat merrily in the luxurious drawing room, not a mine had been opened, and the vast beds of the black diamond rested unsunned beneath the superincumbent mountains, where they had been fashioned by the Creator's hand. Rivers of oil seethed through the impatient and uneasy gases and vast pools and lakes of this pungent, parti-colored fluid, hidden away from the coveting eye of man, guarded well their own secrets. Not a derrick protruded its well-balanced form in the air. Not a drill, with its eager eating tooth descended into the flinty rock. No pipe line diverted the oily tide in a silent, ceaseless current to the ocean's brink. The cities of iron tanks, filled to bursting, had no place amidst the forest solitudes. Oil exchanges, with their vexing puts and calls, shorts and longs, bulls and bears, had not yet come to disturb the equanimity of the red man, as he smoked the pipe of peace at the council fire. Had he once seen the smoke and soot of the new Birmingham of the West, or snuffed the odors of an oil refinery, he would willingly have forfeited his goodly heritage by the forest stream or the deep flowing river, and sought for himself new hunting grounds in less favored regions.

It was an unfortunate circumstance that at the coming of Europeans the territory now known as Pennsylvania was occupied by some of the most bloody and revengeful of the savage tribes. They were known as the Lenni Lenapes, and held sway from the Hudson to the Potomac. A tradition was preserved among them, that in a remote age their ancestors had emigrated eastward from beyond the Mississippi, exterminating as they came the more civilized and peaceful peoples, the Mound-Builders of Ohio and adjacent States, and who

were held among the tribes by whom they were surrounded as the progenitors, the grandfathers or oldest people. They came to be known by Europeans as the Delawares, after the name of the river and its numerous branches along which they principally dwelt. The Monseys or Wolves, another tribe of the Lenapes, dwelt upon the Susquehanna and its tributaries, and, by their warlike disposition, won the credit of being the fiercest of their nation, and the guardians of the door to their council house from the North.

Occupying the greater part of the teritory now known as New York, were the five nations—the Senacas, the Mohawks, the Oneidas, the Cayugas, and the Onondagas, which, from their hearty union, acquired great strength and came to exercise a commanding influence. Obtaining firearms of the Dutch at Albany, they repelled the advances of the French from Canada, and by their superiority in numbers and organization, had overcome the Lenapes, and held them for awhile in vassalage. The Tuscaroras, a tribe which had been expelled from their home in North Carolina, were adopted by the Five Nations in 1712, and from this time forward these tribes were known to the English as the Six Nations, called by the Lenapes, Mingoes, and by the French, Iroquois. There was, therefore, properly a United States before the thirteen colonies achieved their independence. The person and character of these tribes were marked. They were above the ordinary stature, erect, bold, and commanding, of great decorum in council, and when aroused showing native eloquence. In warfare, they exhibited all the bloodthirsty, revengeful, cruel instincts of the savage, and for the attainment of their purposes were treacherous and crafty.

The Indian character, as developed by intercourse with Europeans, exhibits some traits that are peculiar. While coveting what they saw that pleased them, and thievish to the last degree, they were nevertheless generous. This may be accounted for by their habits. "They held that the game of the forest, the fish of the rivers, and the grass of the field were a common heritage, and free to all who would take the trouble to gather them, and ridiculed the idea of fencing in a meadow." Bancroft says: "The hospitality of the Indian has rarely been questioned. The stranger enters his cabin, by day or by night, without asking leave, and is entertained as freely as a thrush or a blackbird, that regales himself on the luxuries of the fruitful grove. He will take his own rest abroad, that he may give up his own skin or mat of sedge to his guest. Nor is the traveler questioned as to the purpose of his visit. He chooses his own time freely to deliver his message." Penn, who, from frequent intercourse came to know them well, in his letter to the society of Free Traders, says of them: "In liberality they excel; nothing is too good for their friend. Give them a fine gun, coat or other thing, it may pass twenty hands before it sticks; light of heart, strong affections, but soon spent. The most merry creatures that live; feast and dance perpetually. They never have much nor want much. Wealth circulateth like the blood. All parts partake; and though none shall want what another hath, yet exact observers of property. Some Kings have sold, others presented me with several parcels of land. The pay or presents I made them, were not hoarded by the particular owners, but the neighboring Kings and clans being present when the goods were brought out, the parties chiefly concerned consulted what and to whom they should give them. To every King, then, by the hands of a person for that work appointed is a proportion sent, so sorted and folded, and with that gravity that is admirable. Then that King subdivideth it in like manner among his dependents, they hardly leaving themselves an equal share with one of their subjects, and be it on such occasions as festivals, or at their common meals, the Kings distribute, and to themselves last. They care for

little because they want but little, and the reason is a little contents them. In this they are sufficiently revenged on us. They are also free from our pains. They are not disquieted with bills of lading and exchange, nor perplexed with chancery suits and exchequer reckonings. We sweat and toil to live; their pleasure feeds them; I mean their hunting, fishing and fowling, and this table is spread everywhere. They eat twice a day, morning and evening. Their seats and table are the ground. Since the Europeans came into these parts they are grown great lovers of strong liquors, rum especially, and for it exchange the richest of their skins and furs. If they are heated with liquors, they are restless till they have enough to sleep. That is their cry, 'Some more and I will go to sleep;' but when drunk one of the most wretched spectacles in the world."

On the 28th of August, 1609, a little more than a century from the time of the first discovery of the New World by Columbus, Hendrick Hudson, an English navigator, then in the employ of the Dutch East India Company, having been sent out in search of a northwestern passage to the Indies, discovered the mouth of a great bay, since known as Delaware Bay, which he entered and partially explored. But finding the waters shallow, and being satisfied that this was only an arm of the sea which received the waters of a great river, and not a passage to the western ocean, he retired, and, turning the prow of his little craft northward, on the 2d of September, he discovered the river which bears his name, the Hudson, and gave several days to its examination. Not finding a passage to the West, which was the object of his search, he returned to Holland, bearing the evidences of his adventures, and made a full report of his discoveries in which he says, "Of all lands on which I ever set my foot, this is the best for tillage."

A proposition had been made in the States General of Holland to form a West India Company with purposes similar to those of the East India Company; but the conservative element in the Dutch Congress prevailed, and while the Government was unwilling to undertake the risks of an enterprise for which it would be responsible, it was not unwilling to foster private enterprise, and on the 27th of March, 1614, an edict was passed, granting the privileges of trade, in any of its possessions in the New World, during four voyages, founding its right to the territory drained by the Delaware and Hudson upon the discoveries by Hudson. Five vessels were accordingly fitted by a company composed of enterprising merchants of the cities of Amsterdam and Hoorn, which made speedy and prosperous voyages under command of Cornelis Jacobson Mey, bringing back with them fine furs and rich woods, which so excited cupidity that the States General was induced on the 14th of October, 1614, to authorize exclusive trade, for four voyages, extending through three years, in the newly acquired possessions, the edict designating them as New Netherlands.

One of the party of this first enterprise, Cornelis Hendrickson, was left behind with a vessel called the Unrest, which had been built to supply the place of one accidentally burned, in which he proceeded to explore more fully the bay and river Delaware, of which he made report that was read before the States General on the 19th of August, 1616. This report is curious as disclosing the opinions of the first actual explorer in an official capacity: "He hath discovered for his aforesaid masters and directors certain lands, a bay, and three rivers, situate between thirty-eight and forty degrees, and did their trade with the inhabitants, said trade consisting of sables, furs, robes and other skins. He hath found the said country full of trees, to wit, oaks, hickory and pines, which trees were, in some places, covered with vines. He hath

seen in said country bucks and does, turkeys and partridges. He hath found the climate of said country very temperate, judging it to be as temperate as this country, Holland. He also traded for and bought from the inhabitants, the Minquas, three persons, being people belonging to this company, which three persons were employed in the service of the Mohawks and Machicans, giving for them kettles, beads, and merchandise."

This second charter of privileges expired in January, 1618, and during its continuance the knowledge acquired of the country and its resources promised so much of success that the States General was ready to grant broader privileges, and on the 3d of June, 1621, the Dutch West India Company was incorporated, to extend for a period of twenty-four years, with the right of renewal, the capital stock to be open to subscription by all nations, and "privileged to trade and plant colonies in Africa, from the tropic of Cancer to the Cape of Good Hope, and in America from the Straits of Magellan to the remotest north." The past glories of Holland, though occupying but an insignificant patch of Europe, emboldened its Government to pass edicts for the colonizing and carrying on an exclusive trade with a full half of the entire world, an example of the biting off of more than could be well chewed. But the light of this enterprising people was beginning to pale before the rising glories of the stern race in their sea girt isle across the channel. Dissensions were arising among the able statesmen who had heretofore guided its affairs, and before the periods promised in the original charter of this colonizing company had expired, its supremacy of the sea was successfully resisted, and its exclusive rights and privileges in the New World had to be relinquished.

The principal object in establishing this West India Company was to secure a good dividend upon the capital stock, which was subscribed to by the rich old burgomasters. The fine furs and products of the forests, which had been taken back to Holland, had proved profitable. But it was seen that if this trade was to be permanently secured, in face of the active competition of other nations, and these commodities steadily depended upon, permanent settlements must be provided for. Accordingly, in 1623, a colony of about forty families, embracing a party of Walloons, protestant fugitives from Belgium, sailed for the new province, under the leadership of Cornelis Jacobson Mey and Joriz Tienpont. Soon after their arrival, Mey, who had been invested with the power of Director General of all the territory claimed by the Dutch, seeing, no doubt, the evidences of some permanence on the Hudson, determined to take these honest minded and devoted Walloons to the South River, or Delaware, that he might also gain for his country a foothold there. The testimony of one of the women, Catalina Tricho, who was of the party, is curious, and sheds some light upon this point. "That she came to this province either in the year 1623 or 1624, and that four women came along with her in the same ship, in which Gov. Arien Jorissen came also over, which four women were married at sea, and that they and their husbands stayed about three weeks at this place (Manhattan) and then they with eight seamen more, went in a vessel by orders of the Dutch Governor to Delaware River, and there settled." Ascending the Delaware some fifty miles, Mey landed on the eastern shore near where now is the town of Gloucester, and built a fort which he called Nassau. Having duly installed his little colony, he returned to Manhattan; but beyond the building of the fort, which served as a trading post, this attempt to plant a colony was futile; for these religious zealots, tiring of the solitude in which they were left, after a few months abandoned it, and returned to their associates whom they had left upon the Hudson. Though not successful in establishing a permanent colony upon the

Delaware, ships plied regularly between the fort and Manhattan, and this became the rallying point for the Indians, who brought thither their commodities for trade. At about this time, 1626, the island of Manhattan estimated to contain 22,000 acres, on which now stands the city of New York with its busy population, surrounded by its forests of masts, was bought for the insignificant sum of sixty guilders, about $24, what would now pay for scarcely a square inch of some of that very soil. As an evidence of the thrift which had begun to mark the progress of the colony, it may be stated that the good ship "The Arms of Amsterdam," which bore the intelligence of this fortunate purchase to the assembly of the XIX in Holland, bore also in the language of O'Calaghan, the historian of New Netherland, the "information that the colony was in a most prosperous state, and that the women and the soil were both fruitful. To prove the latter fact, samples of the recent harvest, consisting of wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, canary seed, were sent forward, together with 8,130 beaver skins, valued at over 45,000 guilders, or nearly $19,000." It is accorded by another historian that this same ship bore also "853½ otter skins, eighty-one mink skins, thirty-six wild cat skins and thirty-four rat skins, with a quantity of oak and hickory timber." From this it may be seen what the commodities were which formed the subjects of trade. Doubtless of wharf rats Holland had enough at home, but the oak and hickory timber came at a time when there was sore need of it.

Finding that the charter of privileges, enacted in 1621, did not give sufficient encouragement and promise of security to actual settlers, further concessions were made in 1629, whereby "all such persons as shall appear and desire the same from the company, shall be acknowledged as Patroons [a sort of feudal lord] of New Netherland, who shall, within the space of four years next after they have given notice to any of the chambers of the company here, or to the Commander or Council there, undertake to plant a colony there of fifty souls, upward of fifteen years old; one-fourth part within one year, and within three years after sending the first, making together four years, the remainder, to the full number of fifty persons, to be shipped from hence, on pain, in case of willful neglect, of being deprived of the privileges obtained." * * "The Patroons, by virtue of their power, shall be permitted, at such places as they shall settle their colonies, to extend their limits four miles along the shore, or two miles on each side of a river, and so far into the country as the situation of the occupiers will permit."

Stimulated by these flattering promises, Goodyn and Bloemmaert, two wealthy and influential citizens, through their agents—Heyser and Coster—secured by purchase from the Indians a tract of land on the western shore, at the mouth of the Delaware, sixteen miles in length along the bay front, and extending sixteen miles back into the country, giving a square of 256 miles. Goodyn immediately gave notice to the company of their intention to plant a colony on their newly acquired territory as patroons. They were joined by an experienced navigator, De Vries, and on the 12th of December, 1630, a vessel, the Walrus, under command of De Vries, was dispatched with a company of settlers and a stock of cattle and farm implements, which arrived safely in the Delaware. De Vries landed about three leagues within the capes, "near the entrance of a fine navigable stream, called the Hoarkill," where he proceeded to build a house, well surrounded with cedar palisades, which served the purpose of fort, lodging house, and trading post. The little settlement, which consisted of about thirty persons, was christened by the high sounding title of Zwanendal—Valley of Swans. In the spring they prepared their fields and planted them, and De Vries returned to Holland, to make report of his proceedings.

But a sad fate awaited the little colony at Zwanendal. In accordance with the custom of European nations, the commandant, on taking possession of the new purchase, erected a post, and affixed thereto a piece of tin on which was traced the arms of Holland and a legend of occupancy. An Indian chieftain, passing that way, attracted by the shining metal, and not understanding the object of the inscription, and not having the fear of their high mightinesses, the States General of Holland before his eyes, tore it down and proceeded to make for himself a tobacco pipe, considering it valuable both by way of ornament and use. When this act of trespass was discovered, it was regarded by the doughty Dutchman as a direct insult to the great State of Holland, and so great an ado was raised over it that the simple minded natives became frightened, believing that their chief had committed a mortal offense, and in the strength and sincerity of their friendship immediately proceeded to dispatch the offending chieftain, and brought the bloody emblems of their deed to the head of the colony. This act excited the anger of the relatives of the murdered man, and in accordance with Indian law, they awaited the chance to take revenge. O'Calaghan gives the following account of this bloody massacre which ensued: "The colony at Zwanendal consisted at this time of thirty-four persons. Of these, thirty-two were one day at work in the fields, while Commissary Hosset remained in charge of the house, where another of the settlers lay sick abed. A large bull dog was chained out of doors. On pretence of selling some furs, three savages entered the house and murdered Hosset and the sick man. They found it not so easy to dispatch the mastiff. It was not until they had pierced him with at least twenty-five arrows that he was destroyed. The men in the fields were then set on, in an equally treacherous manner, under the guise of friendship, and every man of them slain." Thus was a worthless bit of tin the cause of the cutting off and utter extermination of the infant colony.

De Vries was upon the point of returning to Zwanendal when he received intimation of disaster to the settlers. With a large vessel and a yacht, he set sail on the 24th of May, 1632, to carry succor, provided with the means of prosecuting the whale fishery which he had been led to believe might be made very profitable, and of pushing the production of grain and tobacco. On arriving in the Delaware, he fired a signal gun to give notice of his approach. The report echoed through the forest, but, alas! the ears which would have been gladened with the sound were heavy, and no answering salute came from the shore. On landing, he found his house destroyed, the palisades burned, and the skulls and bones of his murdered countrymen bestrewing the earth, sad relics of the little settlement, which had promised so fairly, and warning tokens of the barbarism of the natives.

De Vries knew that he was in no position to attempt to punish the guilty parties, and hence determined to pursue an entirely pacific policy. At his invitation, the Indians gathered in with their chief for a conference. Sitting down in a circle beneath the shadows of the somber forest, their Sachem in the centre, De Vries, without alluding to their previous acts of savagery, concluded with them a treaty of peace and friendship, and presented them in token of ratification, "some duffels, bullets, axes and Nuremburg trinkets."

In place of finding his colony with plenty of provisions for the immediate needs of his party, he could get nothing, and began to be in want. He accordingly sailed up the river in quest of food. The natives were ready with their furs for barter, but they had no supplies of food with which they wished to part. Game, however, was plenty, and wild turkeys were brought in weighing over thirty pounds. One morning after a frosty night, while the little

craft was up the stream, the party was astonished to find the waters frozen over, and their ship fast in the ice. Judging by the mild climate of their own country, Holland, they did not suppose this possible. For several weeks they were held fast without the power to move their floating home. Being in need of a better variety of food than he found it possible to obtain, De Vries sailed away with a part of his followers to Virginia, where he was hospitably entertained by the Governor, who sent a present of goats as a token of friendship to the Dutch Governor at Manhattan. Upon his return to the Delaware, De Vries found that the party he had left behind to prosecute the whale fishery had only taken a few small ones, and these so poor that the amount of oil obtained was insignificant. He had been induced to embark in the enterprise of a settlement here by the glittering prospect of prosecuting the whale fishery along the shore at a great profit. Judging by this experience that the hope of great gains from this source was groundless, and doubtless haunted by a superstitious dread of making their homes amid the relics of the settlers of the previous year, and of plowing fields enriched by their blood who had been so utterly cut off, and a horror of dwelling amongst a people so revengeful and savage, De Vries gathered all together, and taking his entire party with him sailed away to Manhattan and thence home to Holland, abandoning utterly the settlement.

The Dutch still however sought to maintain a foothold upon the Delaware, and a fierce contention having sprung up between the powerful patroons and the Director General, and they having agreed to settle differences by the company authorizing the purchase of the claims of the patroons, those upon the Delaware were sold for 15,600 guilders. Fort Nassau was accordingly re-occupied and manned with a small military force, and when a party from Connecticut Colony came, under one Holmes to make a settlement upon the Delaware, the Dutch at Nassau were found too strong to be subdued, and Holmes and his party were compelled to surrender, and were sent as prisoners of war to Manhattan.

CHAPTER II.

Sir William Keift, 1638–47—Peter Minuit, 1638–41—Peter Hollandaer, 1641–43—John Printz, 1643–53—Peter Stuyvesant, 1647–64—John Pappagoya, 1653–54—John Claude Rysingh, 1654–55.

AT this period, the throne of Sweden was occupied by Gustavus Adolphus, a monarch of the most enlightened views and heroic valor. Seeing the activity of surrounding nations in sending out colonies, he proposed to his people to found a commonwealth in the New World, not for the mere purpose of gain by trade, but to set up a refuge for the oppressed, a place of religious liberty and happy homes that should prove of advantage to "all oppressed Christendom." Accordingly, a company with ample privileges was incorporated by the Swedish Government, to which the King himself pledged $400,000 of the royal treasure, and men of every rank and nationality were invited to join in the enterprise. Gustavus desired not that his colony should depend upon serfs or slaves to do the rough work. "Slaves cost a great deal, labor with reluctance, and soon perish from hard usage. The Swedish nation is laborious and intelligent, and surely we shall gain more by a free people with wives and children."

In the meantime, the fruits of the reformation in Germany were menaced, and the Swedish monarch determined to unsheath his sword and lead his people to the aid of Protestant faith in the land where its standard had been successfully raised. At the battle of Lützen, where for the cause which he had espoused, a signal victory was gained, the illustrious monarch, in the flower of life, received a mortal wound. Previous to the battle, and while engaged in active preparations for the great struggle, he remembered the interests of his contemplated colony in America, and in a most earnest manner commended the enterprise to the people of Germany.

Oxenstiern, the minister of Gustavus, upon whom the weight of government devolved during the minority of the young daughter, Christina, declared that he was but the executor of the will of the fallen King, and exerted himself to further the interests of a colony which he believed would be favorable to "all Christendom, to Europe, to the whole world." Four years however elapsed before the project was brought to a successful issue. Peter Minuit, who had for a time been Governor of New Netherlands, having been displaced, sought employment in the Swedish company, and was given the command of the first colony. Two vessels, the Key of Calmar and the Griffin, early in the year 1638, with a company of Swedes and Fins, made their way across the stormy Atlantic and arrived safely in the Delaware. They purchased of the Indians the lands from the ocean to the falls of Trenton, and at the mouth of Christina Creek erected a fort which they called Christina, after the name of the youthful Queen of Sweden. The soil was fruitful, the climate mild, and the scenery picturesque. Compared with many parts of Finland and Sweden, it was a Paradise, a name which had been given the point at the entrance of the bay. As tidings of the satisfaction of the first emigrants were borne back to the fatherland, the desire to seek a home in the new country spread rapidly, and the ships sailing were unable to take the many families seeking passage.

The Dutch were in actual possession of Fort Nassau when the Swedes first arrived, and though they continued to hold it and to seek the trade of the Indians, yet the artful Minuit was more than a match for them in Indian barter. William Keift, the Governor of New Netherland, entered a vigorous protest against the encroachments of the Swedes upon Dutch territory, in which he said "this has been our property for many years, occupied with forts and sealed by our blood, which also was done when thou wast in the service of New Netherland, and is therefore well known to thee." But Minuit pushed forward the work upon his fort, regardless of protest, trusting to the respect which the flag of Sweden had inspired in the hands of Banner and Torstensen. For more than a year no tidings were had from Sweden, and no supplies from any source were obtained; and while the fruits of their labors were abundant there were many articles of diet, medicines and apparel, the lack of which they began to sorely feel. So pressing had the want become, that application had been made to the authorities at Manhattan for permission to remove thither with all their effects. But on the very day before that on which they were to embark, a ship from Sweden richly laden with provisions, cattle, seeds and merchandise for barter with the natives came joyfully to their relief, and this, the first permanent settlement on soil where now are the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania, was spared. The success and prosperity of the colony during the first few years of its existence was largely due to the skill and policy of Minuit, who preserved the friendship of the natives, avoided an open conflict with the Dutch, and so prosecuted trade that the Dutch Governor reported to his government that trade had fallen off 30,000 beavers. Minuit

was at the head of the colony for about three years, and died in the midst of the people whom he had led.

Minuit was succeeded in the government by Peter Hollandaer, who had previously gone in charge of a company of emigrants, and who was now, in 1641, commissioned. The goodly lands upon the Delaware were a constant attraction to the eye of the adventurer; a party from Connecticut, under the leadership of Robert Cogswell, came, and squatted without authority upon the site of the present town of Salem, N. J. Another company had proceeded up the river, and, entering the Schuylkill, had planted themselves upon its banks. The settlement of the Swedes, backed as it was by one of the most powerful nations of Europe, the Governor of New Netherland was not disposed to molest; but when these irresponsible wandering adventurers came sailing past their forts and boldly planted themselves upon the most eligible sites and fertile lands in their territory, the Dutch determined to assume a hostile front, and to drive them away. Accordingly, Gen. Jan Jansen Van Ilpendam—his very name was enough to frighten away the emigrants—was sent with two vessels and a military force, who routed the party upon the Schuylkill, destroying their fort and giving them a taste of the punishment that was likely to be meted out to them, if this experiment of trespass was repeated. The Swedes joined the Dutch in breaking up the settlement at Salem and driving away the New England intruders.

In 1642, Hollandaer was succeeded in the government of the Swedish Colony by John Printz, whose instructions for the management of affairs were drawn with much care by the officers of the company in Stockholm. "He was, first of all, to maintain friendly relations with the Indians, and by the advantage of low prices hold their trade. His next care was to cultivate enough grain for the wants of the colonists, and when this was insured, turn his attention to the culture of tobacco, the raising of cattle and sheep of a good species, the culture of the grape, and the raising of silk worms. The manufacture of salt by evaporation, and the search for metals and minerals were to be prosecuted, and inquiry into the establishment of fisheries, with a view to profit, especially the whale fishery, was to be made." It will be seen from these instructions that the far-sighted Swedish statesmen had formed an exalted conception of the resources of the new country, and had figured to themselves great possibilities from its future development. Visions of rich silk products, of the precious metals and gems from its mines, flocks upon a thousand hills that should rival in the softness of their downy fleeces the best products of the Indian looms, and the luscious clusters of the vine that could make glad the palate of the epicure filled their imaginations.

With two vessels, the Stoork and Renown, Printz set sail, and arrived at Fort Christina on the 15th of February, 1643. He was bred to the profession of arms, and was doubtless selected with an eye to his ability to holding possession of the land against the conflict that was likely to arise. He had been a Lieutenant of cavalry, and was withal a man of prodigious proportions, "who weighed," according to De Vries, "upward of 400 pounds, and drank three drinks at every meal." He entertained exalted notions of his dignity as Governor of the colony, and prepared to establish himself in his new dominions with some degree of magnificence. He brought with him from Sweden the bricks to be used for the construction of his royal dwelling. Upon an inspection of the settlement, he detected the inherent weakness of the location of Fort Christina for commanding the navigation of the river, and selected the island of Tinacum for the site of a new fort, called New Gottenburg, which was speedily erected and made strong with huge hemlock logs. In the midst of

the island, he built his royal residence, which was surrounded with trees and shubbery. He erected another fort near the mouth of Salem Creek, called Elsinborg, which he mounted with eight brass twelve-pounders, and garrisoned. Here all ships ascending the river were brought to, and required to await a permit from the Governor before proceeding to their destination. Gen. Van Ilpendam, who had been sent to drive away the intruders from New England, had remained after executing his commission as commandant at Fort Nassau; but having incurred the displeasure of Director Keift, he had been displaced, and was succeeded by Andreas Hudde, a crafty and politic agent of the Dutch Governor, who had no sooner arrived and become settled in his place than a conflict of authority sprang up between himself and the Swedish Governor. Dutch settlers secured a grant of land on the west bank of Delaware, and obtained possession by purchase from the Indians. This procedure kindled the wrath of Printz, who tore down the ensign of the company which had been erected in token of the power of Holland, and declared that he would have pulled down the colors of their High Mightinesses had they been erected on this the Swedish soil. That there might be no mistake about his claim to authority, the testy Governor issued a manifesto to his rival on the opposite bank, in which were these explicit declarations:

"Andreas Hudde! I remind you again, by this written warning, to discontinue the injuries of which you have been guilty against the Royal Majesty of Sweden, my most gracious Queen; against Her Royal Majesty's rights, pretensions, soil and land, without showing the least respect to the Royal Majesty's magnificence, reputation and dignity; and to do so no more, considering how little it would be becoming Her Royal Majesty to bear such gross violence, and what great disasters might originate from it, yea, might be expected. * * * All this I can freely bring forward in my own defense, to exculpate me from all future calamities, of which we give you a warning, and place it at your account. Dated New Gothenburg, 3d September, stil, veteri 1646."

It will be noted from the repetition of the high sounding epithets applied to the Queen, that Printz had a very exalted idea of his own position as the Vicegerent of the Swedish monarch. Hudde responded, saying in reply: "The place we possess we hold in just deed, perhaps before the name of South River was heard of in Sweden." This paper, upon its presentation, Printz flung to the ground in contempt, and when the messenger, who bore it, demanded an answer, Printz unceremoniously threw him out doors, and seizing a gun would have dispatched the Dutchman had he not been arrested; and whenever any of Hudde's men visited Tinicum they were sure to be abused, and frequently came back "bloody and bruised." Hudde urged rights acquired by prior possession, but Printz answered: "The devil was the oldest possessor in hell, yet he, notwithstanding, would sometimes admit a younger one." A vessel which had come to the Delaware from Manhattan with goods to barter to the Indians, was brought to, and ordered away. In vain did Hudde plead the rights acquired by previous possession, and finally treaty obligations existing between the two nations. Printz was inexorable, and peremptorily ordered the skipper away, and as his ship was not provided with the means of fighting its way up past the frowning battlements of Fort Elsinborg, his only alternative was to return to Manhattan and report the result to his employers.

Peter Stuyvesant, a man of a good share of native talent and force of character, succeeded to the chief authority over New Netherland in May, 1647. The affairs of his colony were not in an encouraging condition. The New England colonies were crowding upon him from the north and east, and the

Swedes upon the South River were occupying the territory which the Dutch for many years previous to the coming of Christina's colony had claimed. Amid the thickening complications, Stuyvesant had need of all his power of argument and executive skill. He entered into negotiations with the New England colonies for a peaceful settlement of their difficulties, getting the very best terms he could, without resorting to force; for, said his superiors, the officers of the company in Holland, who had an eye to dividends, "War cannot be for our advantage; the New England people are too powerful for us." A pacific policy was also preserved toward the Swedes. Hudde was retained at the head of Dutch affairs upon the Delaware, and he was required to make full reports of everything that was transpiring there in order that a clear insight might be gained of the policy likely to be pursued. Stuyvesant was entirely too shrewd a politician for the choleric Printz. He recommended to the company to plant a Dutch colony on the site of Zwanendal at the mouth of the river, another on the opposite bank, which, if effectually done, would command its navigation; and a third on the upper waters at Beversreede, which would intercept the intercourse of the native population. By this course of active colonizing, Stuyvesant rightly calculated that the Swedish power would be circumscribed, and finally, upon a favorable occasion, be crushed out.

Stuyvesant, that he might ascertain the nature and extent of the Swedish claims to the country, and examine into the complaints that were pouring in upon him of wrongs and indignities suffered by the Dutch at the hands of the Swedish power, in 1651 determined to visit the Delaware in his official capacity. He evidently went in some state, and Printz, who was doubtless impressed with the condecension of the Governor of all New Netherland in thus coming, was put upon his good behavior. Stuyvesant, by his address, got completely on the blind side of the Swedish chief, maintaining the garb of friendship and brotherly good-will, and insisting that the discussion of rights should be carried on in a peaceful and friendly manner, for we are informed that they mutually promised "not to commit any hostile or vexatious acts against one another, but to maintain together all neighborly friendship and correspondence, as good friends and allies are bound to do." Printz was thus, by this agreement, entirely disarmed and placed at a disadvantage; for the Dutch Governor took advantage of the armistice to acquire lands below Fort Christina, where he proceeded to erect a fort only five miles away, which he named Fort Casimir. This gave the Dutch a foothold upon the south bank, and in nearer proximity to the ocean than Fort Christina. Fort Nassau was dismantled and destroyed, as being no longer of use. In a conference with the Swedish Governor, Stuyvesant demanded to see documental proof of his right to exercise authority upon the Delaware, and the compass of the lands to which the Swedish Government laid claim. Printz prepared a statement in which he set out the "Swedish limits wide enough." But Stuyvesant demanded the documents, under the seal of the company, and characterized this writing as a "subterfuge," maintaining by documentary evidence, on his part, the Dutch West India Company's right to the soil.

Printz was great as a blusterer, and preserver of authority when personal abuse and kicks and cuffs could be resorted to without the fear of retaliation; but no match in statecraft for the wily Stuyvesant. To the plea of pre-occupancy he had nothing to answer more than he had already done to Hudde's messenger respecting the government of Hades, and herein was the cause of the Swedes inherently weak. In numbers, too, the Swedes were feeble compared with the Dutch, who had ten times the population. But in diplomacy he had been entirely overreached. Fort Casimir, by its location, rendered

the rival Fort Elsinborg powerless, and under plea that the mosquitoes had become troublesome there, it was abandoned. Discovering, doubtless, that a cloud of complications was thickening over him, which he would be unable with the forces at his commaud to successfully withstand, he asked to be relieved, and, without awaiting an answer to his application, departed for Sweden, leaving his son-in-law, John Pappegoya, who had previously received marks of the royal favor, and been invested with the dignity of Lieutenant Governor, in supreme authority.

The Swedish company had by this time, no doubt, discovered that forcible opposition to Swedish occupancy of the soil upon Delaware was destined soon to come, and accordingly, as a precautionary measure, in November, 1653, the College of Commerce sent John Amundson Besch, with the commission of Captain in the Navy, to superintend the construction of vessels. Upon his arrival, he acquired lands suitable for the purpose of ship-building, and set about laying his keels. He was to have supreme authority over the naval force, and was to act in conjunction with the Governor in protecting the interests of the colony, but in such a manner that neither should decide anything without consulting the other.

On receiving the application of Printz to be relieved, the company appointed John Claude Rysingh, then Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, as Vice Director of New Sweden. He was instructed to fortify and extend the Swedish possessions, but without interrupting the friendship existing with the English or Dutch. He was to use his power of persuasion in inducing the latter to give up Fort Casimir, which was regarded as an intrusion upon Swedish possessions, but without resorting to hostilities, as it was better to allow the Dutch to occupy it than to have it fall into the hands of the English, "who are the more powerful, and, of course, the most dangerous in that country." Thus early was the prowess of England foreshadowed. Gov. Rysingh arrived in the Delaware, on the last day of May, 1654, and immediately demanded the surrender of Fort Casimir. Adriaen Van Tienhoven, an aide-de-camp on the staff of the Dutch commandant of the fort, was sent on board the vessel to demand of Gov. Rysingh by what right he claimed to dispossess the rightful occupants; but the Governor was not disposed to discuss the matter, and immediately landed a party and took possession without more opposition than wordy protests, the Dutch Governor saying, when called on to make defense, "What can I do? there is no powder." Rysingh, however, in justification of his course, stated to Teinhoven, after he had gained possession of the fort, that he was acting under orders from the crown of Sweden, whose embassador at the Dutch Court, when remonstrating against the action of Gov. Stuyvesant in erecting and manning Fort Casimir had been assured, by the State's General and the offices of the West India Company, that they had not authorized the erection of this fort on Swedish soil, saying, "if our people are in your Excellency's way, drive them off." "Thereupon the Swedish Governor slapped Van Teinhoven on the breast, and said, 'Go! tell your Governor that.'" As the capture was made on Trinity Sunday, the name was changed from Fort Casimir to Fort Trinity.

Thus were the instructions of the new Governor, not to resort to force, but to secure possession of the fort by negotiation, complied with, but by a forced interpretation. For, although he had not actually come to battle, for the very good reason that the Dutch had no powder, and were not disposed to use their fists against fire arms, which the Swedes brandished freely, yet, in making his demand for the fort, he had put on the stern aspect of war.

Stuyvesant, on learning of the loss of Fort Casimir, sent a messenger to the

Delaware to invite Gov. Rysingh to come to Manhattan to hold friendly conference upon the subject of their difficulties. This Rysingh refused to do, and the Dutch Governor, probably desiring instructions from the home Government before proceeding to extremities, made a voyage to the West Indies for the purpose of arranging favorable regulations of trade with the colonies, though without the instructions, or even the knowledge of the States-General. Cromwell, who was now at the head of the English nation, by the policy of his agents, rendered this embassy of Stuyvesant abortive.

As soon as information of the conduct of Rysingh at Zwanendal was known in Holland, the company lost no time in disclaiming the representations which he had made of its willingness to have the fort turned over to the Swedes, and immediately took measures for restoring it and wholly dispossessing the Swedes of lands upon the Delaware. On the 16th of November, 1655, the company ordered Stuyvesant "to exert every nerve to avenge the insult, by not only replacing matters on the Delaware in their former position, but by driving the Swedes from every side of the river," though they subsequently modified this order in such manner as to allow the Swedes, after Fort Casimir had been taken, "to hold the land on which Fort Christina is built," with a garden to cultivate tobacco, because it appears that they had made the purchase with the previous knowledge of the company, thus manifesting a disinclination to involve Holland in a war with Sweden. "Two armed ships were forthwith commissioned; 'the drum was beaten daily for volunteers' in the streets of Amsterdam; authority was sent out to arm and equip, and if necessary to press into the company's service a sufficient number of ships for the expedition." In the meantime, Gov. Rysingh, who had inaugurated his reign by so bold a stroke of policy, determined to ingratiate himself into the favor of the Indians, who had been soured in disposition by the arbitrary conduct of the passionate Printz. He accordingly sent out on all sides an invitation to the native tribes to assemble on a certain day, by their chiefs and principal men, at the seat of government on Tinicum Island, to brighten the chain of friendship and renew their pledges of faith and good neighborhood.

On the morning of the appointed day, ten grand sachems with their attendants came, and with the formality characteristic of these native tribes, the council opened. Many and bitter were the complaints made against the Swedes for wrongs suffered at their hands, "chief among which was that many of their number had died, plainly pointing, though not explicitly saying it, to the giving of spirituous liquors as the cause." The new Governor had no answer to make to these complaints, being convinced, probably, that they were but too true. Without attempting to excuse or extenuate the past, Rysingh brought forward the numerous presents which he had taken with him from Sweden for the purpose. The sight of the piled-up goods produced a profound impression upon the minds of the native chieftains. They sat apart for conference before making any expression of their feelings. Naaman, the fast friend of the white man, and the most consequential of the warriors, according to Campanius, spoke: "Look," said he, "and see what they have brought to us." So saying, he stroked himself three times down the arm, which, among the Indians, was a token of friendship; afterward he thanked the Swedes on behalf of his people for the presents they had received, and said that friendship should be observed more strictly between them than ever before; that the Swedes and the Indians in Gov. Printz's time were as one body and one heart, striking his breast as he spoke, and that thenceforward they should be as one head; in token of which he took hold of his head with both hands, and made a motion

as if he were tying a knot, and then he made this comparison: "That, as the calabash was round, without any crack, so they should be a compact body without any fissure; and that if any should attempt to do any harm to the Indians, the Swedes should immediately inform them of it; and, on the other hand, the Indians would give immediate notice to the Christians, even if it were in the middle of the night." On this they were answered that that would be indeed a true and lasting friendship, if every one would agree to it; on which they gave a general shout in token of consent. Immediately on this the great guns were fired, which pleased them extremely, and they said, "*Poo, hoo, hoo; mokerick picon,*" that is to say "Hear and believe; the great guns are fired." Rysingh then produced all the treaties which had ever been concluded between them and the Swedes, which were again solemnly confirmed. "When those who had signed the deeds heard their names, they appeared to rejoice, but, when the names were read of those who were dead, they hung their heads in sorrow."

After the first ebulition of feeling had subsided on the part of the Dutch Company at Amsterdam, the winter passed without anything further being done than issuing the order to Stuyvesant to proceed against the Swedes. In the spring, however, a thirty-six-gun brig was obtained from the burgomasters of Amsterdam, which, with four other crafts of varying sizes, was prepared for duty, and the little fleet set sail for New Netherland. Orders were given for immediate action, though Director General Stuyvesant had not returned from the West Indies. Upon the arrival of the vessels at Manhattan, it was announced that "if any lovers of the prosperity and security of the province of New Netherland were inclined to volunteer, or to serve for reasonable wages, they should come forward," and whoever should lose a limb, or be maimed, was assured of a decent compensation. The merchantmen were ordered to furnish two of their crews, and the river boatmen were to be impressed. At this juncture a grave question arose: "Shall the Jews be enlisted?" It was decided in the negative; but in lieu of service, adult male Jews were taxed sixty-five stivers a head per month, to be levied by execution in case of refusal.

Stuyvesant had now arrived from his commercial trip, and made ready for opening the campaign in earnest. A day of prayer and thanksgiving was held to beseech the favor of Heaven upon the enterprise, and on the 5th of September, 1655, with a fleet of seven vessels and some 600 men, Stuyvesant hoisted sail and steered for the Delaware. Arrived before Fort Trinity (Casimir), the Director sent Capt. Smith and a drummer to summon the fort, and ordered a flank movement by a party of fifty picked men to cut off communication with Fort Christina and the headquarters of Gov. Rysingh. Swen Schute, the commandant of the garrison, asked permission to communicate with Rysingh, which was denied, and he was called on to prevent bloodshed. An interview in the valley midway between the fort and the Dutch batteries was held, when Schute asked to send an open letter to Rysingh. This was denied, and for a third time the fort was summoned. Impatient of delay, and in no temper for parley, the great guns were landed and the Dutch force ordered to advance. Schute again asked for a delay until morning, which was granted, as the day was now well spent and the Dutch would be unable to make the necessary preparations to open before morning. Early on the following day, Schute went on board the Dutch flag-ship, the Balance, and agreed to terms of surrender very honorable to his flag. He was permitted to send to Sweden, by the first opportunity, the cannon, nine in number, belonging to the crown of Sweden, to march out of the fort with twelve men, as his body guard, fully accoutered, and colors flying; the common soldiers to wear their side arms. The com-

mandant and other officers were to retain their private property, the muskets belonging to the crown were to be held until sent for, and finally the fort was to be surrendered, with all the cannon, ammunition, materials and other goods belonging to the West India Company. The Dutch entered the fort at noon with all the formality and glorious circumstance of war, and Dominie Megapolensis, Chaplain of the expedition, preached a sermon of thanksgiving on the following Sunday in honor of the great triumph.

While these signal events were transpiring at Casimir, Gov. Rysing, at his royal residence on Tinicum, was in utter ignorance that he was being despoiled of his power. A detachment of nine men had been sent by the Governor to Casimir to re-enforce the garrison, which came unawares upon the Dutch lines, and after a brief skirmish all but two were captured. Upon learning that the fort was invested, Factor Ellswyck was sent with a flag to inquire of the invaders the purpose of their coming. The answer was returned "To recover and retain our property." Rysingh then communicated the hope that they would therewith rest content, and not encroach further upon Swedish territory, having, doubtless, ascertained by this time that the Dutch were too strong for him to make any effectual resistance. Stuyvesant returned an evasive answer, but made ready to march upon Fort Christina. It will be remembered that by the terms of the modified orders given for the reduction of the Swedes, Fort Christina was not to be disturbed. But the Dutch Governor's blood was now up, and he determined to make clean work while the means were in his hands. Discovering that the Dutch were advancing, Rysingh spent the whole night in strengthening the defenses and putting the garrison in position to make a stout resistance. Early on the following day the invaders made their appearance on the opposite bank of Christina Creek, where they threw up defenses and planted their cannon. Forces were landed above the fort, and the place was soon invested on all sides, the vessels, in the meantime, having been brought into the mouth of the creek, their cannon planted west of the fort and on Timber Island. Having thus securely shut up the Governor and his garrison, Stuyvesant summmoned him to surrender. Rysingh could not in honor tamely submit, and at a council of war it was resolved to make a defense and "leave the consequence to be redressed by our gracious superiors." But their supply of powder barely sufficed for one round, and his force consisted of only thirty men. In the meantime, the Dutch soldiery made free with the property of the Swedes without the fort, killing their cattle and invading their homes. "At length the Swedish garrison itself showed symptoms of mutiny. The men were harassed with constant watching, provisions began to fail, many were sick, several had deserted, and Stuyvesant threatened, that, if they held out much longer, to give no quarter." A conference was held which ended by the return of Rysingh to the fort more resolute than ever for defense. Finally Stuyvesant sent in his *ultimatum* and gave twenty-four hours for a final answer, the generous extent of time for consideration evincing the humane disposition of the commander of the invading army, or what is perhaps more probable his own lack of stomach for carnage. Before the expiration of the time allowed, the garrison capitulated, "after a siege of fourteen days, during which, very fortunately, there was a great deal more talking than cannonading, and no blood shed, except those of the goats, poultry and swine, which the Dutch troops laid their hands on. The twenty or thirty Swedes then marched out with their arms; colors flying, matches lighted, drums beating, and fifes playing, and the Dutch took possession of the fort, hauled down the Swedish flag and hoisted their own."

By the terms of capitulation, the Swedes, who wished to remain in the

country, were permitted to do so, on taking the oath of allegiance, and rights of property were to be respected under the sway of Dutch law. Gov. Rysingh, and all others who desired to return to Europe, were furnished passage, and by a secret provision, a loan of £300 Flemish was made to Rysingh, to be refunded on his arrival in Sweden, the cannon and other property belonging to the crown remaining in the hands of the Dutch until the loan was paid. Before withdrawing Stuyvesant offered to deliver over Fort Christina and the lands immediately about it to Rysingh, but this offer was declined with dignity, as the matter had now passed for arbitrament to the courts of the two nations.

The terms of the capitulation were honorable and liberal enough, but the Dutch authorities seem to have exercised little care in carrying out its provisions, or else the discipline in the service must have been very lax. For Rysingh had no sooner arrived at Manhattan, than he entered most vigorous protests against the violations of the provisions of the capitulation to Gov. Stuyvesant. He asserted that the property belonging to the Swedish crown had been left without guard or protection from pillage, and that he himself had not been assigned quarters suited to his dignity. He accused the Dutch with having broken open the church, and taken away all the cordage and sails of a new vessel, with having plundered the villages, Tinnakong, Uplandt, Finland, Printzdorp and other places. "In Christina, the women were violently torn from their houses; whole buildings were destroyed; yea, oxen, cows, hogs and other creatures were butchered day after day; even the horses were not spared, but wantonly shot; the plantations destroyed, and the whole country so desolated that scarce any means were left for the subsistence of the inhabitants." "Your men carried off even my own property," said Rysingh, "with that of my family, and we were left like sheep doomed to the knife, without means of defense against the wild barbarians."

Thus the colony of Swedes and Fins on the South River, which had been planned by and had been the object of solicitude to the great monarch himself, and had received the fostering care of the Swedish Government, came to an end after an existence of a little more than seventeen years—1638–1655. But though it no longer existed as a colony under the government of the crown of Sweden, many of the colonists remained and became the most intelligent and law-abiding citizens, and constituted a vigorous element in the future growth of the State. Some of the best blood of Europe at this period flowed in the veins of the Swedes. "A love for Sweden," says Bancroft, "their dear mother country, the abiding sentiment of loyalty toward its sovereign, continued to distinguish the little band. At Stockholm, they remained for a century the objects of disinterested and generous regard; affection united them in the New World; and a part of their descendants still preserve their altar and their dwellings around the graves of their fathers."

This campaign of Stuyvesant, for the dispossessing of the Swedes of territory upon the Delaware, furnishes Washington Irving subject for some of the most inimitable chapters of broad humor, in his Knickerbocker's New York, to be found in the English language. And yet, in the midst of his side-splitting paragraphs, he indulges in a reflection which is worthy of remembrance. "He who reads attentively will discover the threads of gold which run throughout the web of history, and are invisible to the dull eye of ignorance. * * * By the treacherous surprisal of Fort Casimir, then, did the crafty Swedes enjoy a transient triumph, but drew upon their heads the vengeance of Peter Stuyvesant, who wrested all New Sweden from their hands. By the conquest of New Sweden, Peter Stuyvesant aroused the claims of Lord Balti-

more, who appealed to the cabinet of Great Britain, who subdued the whole province of New Netherlands. By this great achievement, the whole extent of North America, from Nova Scotia to the Floridas, was rendered one entire dependency upon the British crown. But mark the consequence: The hitherto scattered colonies being thus consolidated and having no rival colonies to check or keep them in awe, waxed great and powerful, and finally becoming too strong for the mother country, were enabled to shake off its bonds. But the chain of effects stopped not here; the successful revolution in America produced the sanguinary revolution in France, which produced the puissant Bonaparte, who produced the French despotism."

In March, 1656, the ship "Mercury," with 130 emigrants, arrived, the government at Stockholm having had no intimation of the Dutch conquest. An attempt was made to prevent a landing, and the vessel was ordered to report to Stuyvesant at Manhattan, but the order was disregarded and the colonists debarked and acquired lands. The Swedish Government was not disposed to submit to these high-handed proceedings of the Dutch, and the ministers of the two courts maintained a heated discussion of their differences. Finding the Dutch disposed to hold by force their conquests, the government of Sweden allowed the claim to rest until 1664. In that year, vigorous measures were planned to regain its claims upon the Delaware, and a fleet bearing a military force was dispatched for the purpose. But, having been obliged to put back on account of stress of weather, the enterprise was abandoned.

CHAPTER III.

JOHN PAUL JACQUET, 1655-57—JACOB ALRICHS, 1657-59—GOERAN VAN DYCK, 1657-58—WILLIAM BEEKMAN, 1658-63—ALEXANDER D'HINOYOSSA, 1659-64.

THE colonies upon the Delaware being now under exclusive control of the Dutch, John Paul Jaquet was appointed in November, 1655, as Vice Director, Derck Smidt having exercised authority after the departure of Stuyvesant. The expense of fitting out the expedition for the reduction of the Swedes was sorely felt by the West India Company, which had been obliged to borrow money for the purpose of the city of Amsterdam. In payment of this loan, the company sold to the city all the lands upon the south bank of the Delaware, from the ocean to Christina Creek, reaching back to the lands of the Minquas, which was designated Nieur Amstel. Again was there divided authority upon the Delaware. The government of the new possession was vested in a commission of forty residents of Amsterdam, who appointed Jacob Alrichs as Director, and sent him with a force of forty soldiers and 150 colonists, in three vessels, to assume the government, whereupon Jaquet relinquished authority over this portion of his territory. The company in communicating with Stuyvesant upon the subject of his course in dispossessing the Swedes, after duly considering all the complaints and remonstrances of the Swedish government, approved his conduct, "though they would not have been displeased had such a *formal* capitulation not taken place," adding as a parenthetical explanation of the word formal "what is written is too long preserved, and may be produced when not desired, whereas words not recorded are, in the lapse of time, forgotten, or may be explained away."

Stuyvesant still remained in supreme control over both the colony of the city and the colony of the company, to the immediate governorship of the latter of which, Goeran Van Dyck was appointed. But though settlements in the management of affairs were frequently made, they would not remain settled. There was conflict of authority between Alrichs and Van Dyck. The companies soon found that a grievous system of smuggling had sprung up. After a searching examination into the irregularities by Stuyvesant, who visited the Delaware for the purpose, he recommended the appointment of one general agent who should have charge of all the revenues of both colonies, and William Beekman was accordingly appointed. The company of the city seems not to have been satisfied with the profits of their investment, and accordingly made new regulations to govern settlement, by which larger returns would accrue. This action created discontent among the settlers, and many who were meditating the purchase of lands and the acquisition of homes, determined to go over into Maryland where Lord Baltimore was offering far more liberal terms of settlement. To add to the discomforts of the settlers, "the miasms which the low alluvial soil and the rank and decomposed vegetation of a new country engenders," produced wasting sicknesses. When the planting was completed, and the new soil, for ages undisturbed, had been thoroughly stirred, the rains set in which descended almost continuously, producing fever and ague and dysentery. Scarcely a family escaped the epidemic. Six in the family of Director Alrichs were attacked, and his wife died. New colonists came without provisions, which only added to the distress. "Scarcity of provisions," says O'Calaghan, "naturally followed the failure of the crops; 900 schepels of grain had been sown in the spring. They produced scarcely 600 at harvest. Rye rose to three guilders the bushel; peas to eight guilders the sack; salt was twelve guilders the bushel at New Amsterdam; cheese and butter were not to be had, and when a man journeys he can get nothing but dry bread, or he must take a pot or kettle along with him to cook his victuals." "The place had now got so bad a name that the whole river could not wash it clean." The exactions of the city company upon its colony, not only did not bring increased revenue, but by dispersing the honest colonists, served to notify Lord Baltimore—who had laid claim to the lands upon Delaware, on account of original discovery by Lord De la War, from whom the river takes its name, and from subsequent charter of the British crown, covering territory from the 38th to the 40th degree of latitude—of the weakness of the colonies, and persuade him that now was a favorable opportunity to enforce his claims Accordingly, Col. Utie, with a number of delegates, was dispatched to demand that the Dutch should quit the place, or declare themselves subjects of Lord Baltimore, adding, "that if they hesitated, they should be responsible for whatever innocent blood might be shed."

Excited discussions ensued between the Dutch authorities and the agents of the Maryland government, and it was finally agreed to refer the matter to Gov. Stuyvesant, who immediately sent Commissioners to the Chesapeake to settle differences, and enter into treaty regulations for the mutual return of fugitives, and dispatched sixty soldiers to the Delaware to assist in preserving order, and resisting the English, should an attempt be made to dispossess the Dutch.

Upon the death of Alrichs, which occurred in 1659, Alexander D'Hinoyossa was appointed Governor of the city colony. The new Governor was a man of good business capacity, and sought to administer the affairs of his colony for the best interests of the settlers, and for increasing the revenues of the company. To further the general prosperity, the company negotiated a new loan

with which to strengthen and improve its resources. This liberal policy had the desired effect. The Swedes, who had settled above on the river, moved down, and acquired homes on the lands of the city colony. The Fins and discontented Dutch, who had gone to Maryland, returned and brought with them some of the English settlers.

Discouraged by the harassing conflicts of authority which seemed interminable, the West India Company transferred all its interests on the east side of the river to the colony of the city, and upon the visit of D'Hinoyossa to Holland in 1663, he secured for himself the entire and exclusive government of the colonies upon the Delaware, being no longer subject to the authority of Stuyvesant.

Encouraged by liberal terms of settlement, and there being now a prospect of stable government, emigrants were attracted thither. A Mennonite community came in a body. "Clergymen were not allowed to join them, nor any 'intractable people such as those in communion with the Roman See, usurious Jews, English stiff-necked Quakers, Puritans, foolhardy believers in the millennium, and obstinate modern pretenders to revelation.'" They were obliged to take an oath never to seek for an office; Magistrates were to receive no compensation, "not even a stiver." The soil and climate were regarded as excellent, and when sufficiently peopled, the country would be the "finest on the face of the globe."

CHAPTER IV.

RICHARD NICHOLS, 1664-67—ROBERT NEEDHAM, 1664-68—FRANCIS LOVELACE, 1667-73—JOHN CARR, 1668-73—ANTHONY COLVE, 1673-74—PETER ALRICHS, 1673-74.

AFFAIRS were scarcely arranged upon the Delaware, and the dawning of a better day for the colonists ushered in, before new complications began to threaten the subversion of the whole Dutch power in America. The English had always claimed the entire Atlantic seaboard. Under Cromwell, the Navigation act was aimed at Dutch interests in the New World. Captain John Scott, who had been an officer in the army of Charles I, having obtained some show of authority from the Governor of Connecticut, had visited the towns upon the west end of Long Island, where was a mixed population of Dutch and English, and where he claimed to have purchased large tracts of land, and had persuaded them to unite under his authority in setting up a government of their own. He visited England and "petitioned the King to be invested with the government of Long Island, or that the people thereof be allowed to choose yearly a Governor and Assistants." By his representation, an inquiry was instituted by the King's council, "as to his majesty's title to the premises; the intrusions of the Dutch; their deportment; management of the country; strength, trade and government; and lastly, of the means necessary to induce or force them to acknowledge the King, or if necessary, to expel them together from the country." The visit of Scott, and his prayer to the King for a grant of Long Island, was the occasion of inaugurating a policy, which resulted in the overthrow of Dutch rule in America. But the attention of English statesmen had for some time been turned to the importance of the territory which the Dutch colonies had occupied, and a belief that Dutch trade in the New World was yielding great returns, stimulated inquiry. James,

Duke of York, brother of the King, who afterward himself became King, was probably at this time the power behind the throne that was urging on action looking to the dispossession of the Dutch. The motive which seemed to actuate him was the acquisition of personal wealth and power. He saw, as he thought, a company of merchants in Amsterdam accumulating great wealth out of these colonies, and he meditated the transfer of this wealth to himself. He was seconded in this project by the powerful influence of Sir George Downing, who had been Envoy at The Hague, under Cromwell, and was now under Charles II. "Keen, bold, subtle, active, and observant, but imperious and unscrupulous, disliking and distrusting the Dutch," he had watched every movement of the company's granted privileges by the States General, and had reported everything to his superiors at home. "The whole bent," says O'Calaghan," of this man's mind was constantly to hold up before the eyes of his countrymen the growing power of Holland and her commercial companies, their immense wealth and ambition, and the danger to England of permitting these to progress onward unchecked."

After giving his testimony before the council, Scott returned to America with a letter from the King recommending his interests to the co-operation and protection of the New England colonies. On arriving in Connecticut, he was commissioned by the Governor of that colony to incorporate Long Island under Connecticut jurisdiction. But the Baptists, Quakers and Mennonites, who formed a considerable part of the population, "dreaded falling into the hands of the Puritans." In a quaint document commencing, "In the behalfe of sum hundreds of English here planted on the west end of Long Island wee address," etc.," they besought Scott to come and settle their difficulties. On his arrival he acquainted them with the fact, till then unknown, that King Charles had granted the island to the Duke of York, who would soon assert his rights. Whereupon the towns of Hemstede, Newwarke, Crafford, Hastings, Folestone and Gravesend, entered into a "combination" as they termed it, resolved to elect deputies to draw up laws, choose magistrates, and empowered Scott to act as their President; in short set up the first independent State in America. Scott immediately set out at the head of 150 men, horse and foot, to subdue the island.

On the 22d of March, 1664, Charles II made a grant of the whole of Long Island, and all the adjoining country at the time in possession of the Dutch, to the Duke of York. Borrowing four men-of-war of the king, James sent them in command of Col. Richard Nicholls, an old officer, with whom was associated Sir Robert Carr, Sir George Cartwright, and Samuel Maverick, Esq., and a force of 450 men, to dispossess the Dutch. To insure the success of the expedition, letters were addressed to each of the Governors of the New England colonies, enjoining upon them to unite in giving aid by men and material to Nicholls. The fleet sailed directly for Boston, where it was expected, and whence, through one Lord, the Dutch were notified of its coming. The greatest consternation was aroused upon the receipt of this intelligence, and the most active preparations were making for defense. But in the midst of these preparations, notice was received from the Chambers at Amsterdam, doubtless inspired by the English, that "no apprehension of any public enemy or danger from England need be entertained. That the King was only desirous to reduce the colonies to uniformity in church and state, and with this view was dispatching some Commissioners with two or three frigates to New England to introduce Episcopacy in that quarter." Thrown completely off his guard by this announcement, the Director General, Stuyvesant abandoned all preparations for resistance, and indulged in no anticipations of a hostile visitation. Thus

were three full weeks lost in which the colonies might have been put in a very good state of defense.

Nicholls on arriving in American waters, touched at Boston and Connecticut, where some aid was received, and then hastened foward to Manhattan. Stuyvesant had but a day or two before learned of the arrival, and of the hostile intent. Scarcely had he issued orders for bringing out his forces and for fortifying before Nicholls scattered proclamations through the colony promising to protect all who submitted to his Brittanic majesty in the undisturbed possession of their property, and made a formal summons upon Stuyvesant to surrender the country to the King of Great Britain. The Director found that he had an entirely different enemy to treat with from Rysingh, and a few half-armed Swedes and Fins upon the Delaware. Wordy war ensued between the Commissioners and the Director, and the English Governor finding that Stuyvesant not in the temper to yield, landed a body of his soldiers upon the lower end of the island, and ordered Hyde, the commander of the fleet, to lay the frigates broadside before the city. It was a critical moment. Stuyvesant was standing on one of the points of the fort when he saw the frigates approaching. The gunner stood by with burning match, prepared to fire on the fleet, and Stuyvesant seemed on the point of giving the order. But he was restrained, and a further communication was sent to Nicholls, who would listen to nothing short of the full execution of his mission. Still Stuyvesant held out. The inhabitants implored, but rather than surrender "he would be carried a corpse to his grave." The town was, however, in no condition to stand a siege. The powder at the fort would only suffice for one day of active operations. Provisions were scarce. The inhabitants were not disposed to be sacrificed, and the disaffection among them spread to the soldiers. They were overheard muttering, "Now we hope to pepper those devilish traders who have so long salted us; we know where booty is to be found, and where the young women live who wear gold chains."

The Rev. Jannes Myapoleuses seems to have been active in negotiations and opposed to the shedding of blood. A remonstrance drawn by him was finally adopted and signed by the principal men, and presented to the Director General, in which the utter hopelessness of resistance was set forth, and Stuyvesant finally consented to capitulate. Favorable terms were arranged, and Nicholls promised that if it should be finally agreed between the English and Dutch governments that the province should be given over to Dutch rule, he would peacefully yield his authority. Thus without a gun being fired, the English made conquest of the Manhattoes.

Sir Robert Carr, with two frigates and an ample force, was dispatched to the Delaware to reduce the settlements there to English rule. The planters, whether Dutch or Swedes, were to be insured in the peaceable possession of their property, and the magistrates were to be continued in office.

Sailing past the fort, he disseminated among the settlers the news of the surrender of Stuyvesant, and the promises of protection which Nicholls had made use of. But Gov. D'Hinoyossa was not disposed to heed the demand for surrender without a struggle. Whereupon Carr landed his forces and stormed the place. After a fruitless but heroic resistance, in which ten were wounded and three were killed, the Governor was forced to surrender. Thus was the complete subversion of the State's General in America consummated, and the name of New Amsterdam gave place to that of New York, from the name of the English proprietor, James, Duke of York.

The resistance offered by D'Hinoyossa formed a pretext for shameless plunder. Carr, in his report which shows him to have been a lawless fel-

low, says, "Ye soldiers never stoping untill they stormed ye fort, and sae consequently to plundering; the seamen, noe less given to that sport, were quickly within, and have gotton good store of booty." Carr seized the farm of D'Hinoyossa, his brother, John Carr, that of Sheriff Sweringen, and Ensign Stock that of Peter Alrichs. The produce of the land for that year was seized, together with a cargo of goods that was unsold. "Even the inoffensive Mennonists, though non-combatant from principle, did not escape the sack and plunder to which the whole river was subjected by Carr and his marauders. A boat was dispatched to their settlement, which was stripped of everything, to a very naile."

Nicholls, on hearing of the rapacious conduct of his subordinate, visited the Delaware, removed Carr, and placed Robert Needham in command. Previous to dispatching his fleet to America, in June, 1664, the Duke of York had granted to John, Lord Berkeley, Baron of Stratton, and Sir George Carteret, of Saltrum in Devon, the territory of New Jersey, bounded substantially as the present State, and this, though but little settled by the Dutch, had been included in the terms of surrender secured by Nicholls. In many ways, he showed himself a man of ability and discretion. He drew up with signal success a body of laws, embracing most of the provisions which had been in force in the English colonies, which were designated the Duke's Laws.

In May, 1667, Col. Francis Lovelace was appointed Governor in place of Nicholls, and soon after taking charge of affairs, drew up regulations for the government of the territory upon the Delaware, and dispatched Capt. John Carr to act there as his Deputy Governor. It was provided that whenever complaint duly sworn to was made, the Governor was to summon "the schout, Hans Block, Israel Helm, Peter Rambo, Peter Cock and Peter Alrichs, or any two of them, as counsellors, to advise him, and determine by the major vote what is just, equitable and necessary in the case in question." It was further provided that all men should be punished in an exemplary manner, though with moderation; that the laws should be frequently communicated to the counsellors, and that in cases of difficulty recourse should be had to the Governor and Council at New York.

In 1668, two murders were perpetrated by Indians, which caused considerable disturbance and alarm throughout the settlements. These capital crimes appear to have been committed while the guilty parties were maddened by liquor. So impressed were the sachems and leading warriors of the baneful effects of strong drink, that they appeared before the Council and besought its authority to utterly prohibit the sale of it to any of their tribes. These requests were repeated, and finally, upon the advice of Peter Alrichs, "the Governor (Lovelace) prohibited, *on pain of death*, the selling of powder, shot and strong liquors to the Indians, and writ to Carr on the occasion to use the utmost vigilance and caution."

The native murderers were not apprehended, as it was difficult to trace them; but the Indians themselves were determined to ferret them out. One was taken and shot to death, who was the chief offender, but the other escaped and was never after heard of. The chiefs summoned their young men, and in presence of the English warned them that such would be the fate of all offenders. Proud justly remarks: "This, at a time when the Indians were numerous and strong and the Europeans few and weak, was a memorable act of justice, and a proof of true friendship to the English, greatly alleviating the fear, for which they had so much reason among savages, in this then wilderness country."

In 1669, a reputed son of the distinguished Swedish General, Connings-

marke, commonly called the Long Fin, with another of his nationality, Henry Coleman, a man of property, and familiar with the language and habits of the Indians, endeavored to incite an insurrection to throw off the English rule and establish the Swedish supremacy. The Long Fin was apprehended, and was condemned to die; but upon reconsideration his sentence was commuted to whipping and to branding with the letter R. He was brought in chains to New York, where he was incarcerated in the Stadt-house for a year, and was then transported to Barbadoes to be sold. Improvements in the modes of administering justice were from time to time introduced. New Castle was made a corporation, to be governed by a Bailiff and six associates. Duties on importations were laid, and Capt. Martin Pringer was appointed to collect and make due returns of them to Gov. Lovelace.

In 1673, the French monarch, Louis XIV, declared war against the Netherlands, and with an army of over 200,000 men moved down upon that devoted country. In conjunction with the land force, the English, with a powerful armament, descended upon the Dutch waters. The aged Du Ruyter and the youthful Van Tromp put boldly to sea to meet the invaders. Three great naval battles were fought upon the Dutch coast on the 7th and 14th of June, and the 6th of August, in which the English forces were finally repulsed and driven from the coast. In the meantime, the inhabitants, abandoning their homes, cut the dikes which held back the sea, and invited inundation. Deeming this a favorable opportunity to regain their possessions wrenched from them in the New World, the Dutch sent a small fleet under Commodores Cornelius Evertse and Jacobus Benkes, to New York, to demand the surrender of all their previous possessions. Gov. Lovelace happened to be absent, and his representative, Capt. John Manning, surrendered with but brief resistance, and the magistrates from Albany, Esopus, East Jersey and Long Island, on being summoned to New York, swore fealty to the returning Dutch power. Anthony Colve, as Governor, was sent to Delaware, where the magistrates hastened to meet him and submit themselves to his authority. Property in the English Government was confiscated; Gov. Lovelace returned to England, and many of the soldiers were carried prisoners to Holland. Before their departure, Commodores Evertse and Benkes, who styled themselves "The honorable and awful council of war, for their high mightinesses, the State's General of the United Netherlands, and his Serene Highness, the Prince of Orange," commissioned Anthony Colve, a Captain of foot, on the 12th of August, 1673, to be Governor General of "New Netherlands, with all its appendences," and on the 19th of September following, Peter Alrichs, who had manifested his subserviency and his pleasure at the return of Dutch ascendancy, was appointed by Colve Deputy Governor upon the Delaware. A body of laws was drawn up for his instruction, and three courts of justice were established, at New Castle, Chester and Lewistown. Capt. Manning on his return to England was charged with treachery for delivering up the fort at New York without resistance, and was sentenced by a court martial "to have his sword broken over his head in public, before the city hall, and himself rendered incapable of wearing a sword and of serving his Majesty for the future in any public trust in the Government."

But the revolution which had been affected so easily was of short duration. On the 9th of February, 1674, peace was concluded between England and Holland, and in the articles of pacification it was provided "that whatsoever countries, islands, towns, ports, castles or forts, have or shall be taken, on both sides, since the time that the late unhappy war broke out, either in Europe, or elsewhere, shall be restored to the former lord and proprietor, in the same con-

dition they shall be in when the peace itself shall be proclaimed, after which time there shall be no spoil nor plunder of the inhabitants, no demolition of fortifications, nor carrying away of guns, powder, or other military stores which belonged to any castle or port at the time when it was taken." This left no room for controversy about possession. But that there might be no legal bar nor loophole for question of absolute right to his possessions, the Duke of York secured from the King on the 29th of June following, a new patent covering the former grant, and two days thereafter sent Sir Edmund Andros, to possess and govern the country. He arrived at New York and took peaceable possession on the 31st of October, and two days thereafter it was resolved in council to reinstate all the officers upon Delaware as they were at the surrender to the Dutch, except Peter Alrichs, who for his forwardness in yielding his power was relieved. Capt. Edmund Cantwell and William Tom were sent to occupy the fort at New Castle, in the capacities of Deputy Governor and Secretary. In May, 1675, Gov. Andros visited the Delaware, and held court at New Castle "in which orders were made relative to the opening of roads, the regulation of church property and the support of preaching, the prohibition of the sale of liquors to the Indians, and the distillation thereof by the inhabitants." On the 23d of September, 1676, Cantwell was superseded by John Collier, as Vice Governor, when Ephraim Hermans became Secretary.

As was previously observed, Gov. Nicholls, in 1664, made a complete digest of all the laws and usages in force in the English-speaking colonies in America, which were known as the Duke's Laws. That these might now be made the basis of judicature throughout the Duke's possessions, they were, on the 25th of September, 1676, formally proclaimed and published by Gov. Lovelace, with a suitable ordinance introducing them. It may here be observed, that, in the administration of Gov. Hartranft, by act of the Legislature of June 12, 1878, the Duke's Laws were published in a handsome volume, together with the Charter and Laws instituted by Penn, and historical notes covering the early history of the State, under the direction of John B. Linn, Secretary of the commonwealth, edited by Staughton George, Benjamin M. Nead, and Thomas McCamant, from an old copy preserved among the town records of Hempstead, Long Island, the seat of the independent State which had been set up there by John Scott before the coming of Nicholls. The number of taxable male inhabitants between the ages of sixteen and sixty years, in 1677, for Uplandt and New Castle, was 443, which by the usual estimate of seven to one would give the population 3,101 for this district. Gov. Collier having exceeded his authority by exercising judicial functions, was deposed by Andros, and Capt. Christopher Billop was appointed to succeed him. But the change resulted in little benefit to the colony; for Billop was charged with many irregularities, "taking possession of the fort and turning it into a stable, and the court room above into a hay and fodder loft; debarring the court from sitting in its usual place in the fort, and making use of soldiers for his own private purposes."

The hand of the English Government bore heavily upon the denomination of Christians called Friends or Quakers, and the earnest-minded, conscientious worshipers, uncompromising in their faith, were eager for homes in a land where they should be absolutely free to worship the Supreme Being. Berkeley and Carteret, who had bought New Jersey, were Friends, and the settlements made in their territory were largely of that faith. In 1675, Lord Berkeley sold his undivided half of the province to John Fenwicke, in trust for Edward Byllinge, also Quakers, and Fenwicke sailed in the Griffith, with a company of Friends who settled at Salem, in West Jersey. Byllinge, having

become involved in debt, made an assignment of his interest for the benefit of his creditors, and William Penn was induced to become trustee jointly with Gowen Lawrie and Nicholas Lucas. Penn was a devoted Quaker, and he was of that earnest nature that the interests of his friends and Christian devotees were like his own personal interests. Hence he became zealous in promoting the welfare of the colony. For its orderly government, and that settlers might have assurance of stability in the management of affairs, Penn drew up "Concessions and agreements of the proprietors, freeholders and inhabitants of West New Jersey in America" in forty-four chapters. Foreseeing difficulty from divided authority, Penn secured a division of the province by "a line of partition from the east side of Little Egg Harbor, straight north, through the country to the utmost branch of the Delaware River." Penn's half was called New West Jersey, along the Delaware side, Carteret's New East Jersey along the ocean shore. Penn's purposes and disposition toward the settlers, as the founder of a State, are disclosed by a letter which he wrote at this time to a Friend, Richard Hartshorn, then in America: "We lay a foundation for after ages to understand their liberty, as men and Christians; that they may not be brought into bondage, but by their own consent; for we put the power in the people. * * So every man is capable to choose or to be chosen; no man to be arrested, condemned, or molested, in his estate, or liberty, but by twelve men of the neighborhood; no man to lie in prison for debt, but that his estate satisfy, as far as it will go, and he be set at liberty to work; no man to be called in question, or molested for his conscience." Lest any should be induced to leave home and embark in the enterprise of settlement unadvisedly, Penn wrote and published a letter of caution, "That in whomsoever a desire to be concerned in this intended plantation, such would weigh the thing before the Lord, and not headily, or rashly, conclude on any such remove, and that they do not offer violence to the tender love of their near kindred and relations, but soberly, and conscientiously endeavor to obtain their good wills; that whether they go or stay, it may be of good savor before the Lord and good people."

CHAPTER V.

SIR EDMUND ANDROS, 1674–81—EDMUND CANTWELL, 1674–76—JOHN COLLIER, 1676–77—CHRISTOPHER BILLOP, 1677–81.

WILLIAM PENN, as Trustee, and finally as part owner of New Jersey, became much interested in the subject of colonization in America. Many of his people had gone thither, and he had given much prayerful study and meditation to the amelioration of their condition by securing just laws for their government. His imagination pictured the fortunate condition of a State where the law-giver should alone study the happiness of his subjects, and his subjects should be chiefly intent on rendering implicit obedience to just laws. From his experience in the management of the Jerseys, he had doubtless discovered that if he would carry out his ideas of government successfully, he must have a province where his voice would be potential and his will supreme. He accordingly cast about for the acquirement of such a land in the New World.

Penn had doubtless been stimulated in his desires by the very roseate accounts of the beauty and excellence of the country, its salubrity of climate, its

balmy airs, the fertility of its soil, and the abundance of the native fish, flesh and fowl. In 1680, one Malhon Stacy wrote a letter which was largely circulated in England, in which he says: "It is a country that produceth all things for the support and furtherance of man, in a plentiful manner. * * * I have seen orchards laden with fruit to admiration; their very limbs torn to pieces with weight, most delicious to the taste, and lovely to behold. I have seen an apple tree, from a pippin-kernel, yield a barrel of curious cider; and peaches in such plenty that some people took their carts a peach gathering; I could not but smile at the conceit of it; they are very delicious fruit, and hang almost like our onions, that are tied on ropes. I have seen and know, this summer, forty bushels of bold wheat of one bushel sown. From May till Michaelmas, great store of very good wild fruits as strawberries, cranberries and hurtleberries, which are like our billberries in England, only far sweeter; the cranberries, much like cherries for color and bigness, which may be kept till fruit comes again; an excellent sauce is made of them for venison, turkeys, and other great fowl, and they are better to make tarts of than either gooseberries or cherries; we have them brought to our houses by the Indians in great plenty. My brother Robert had as many cherries this year as would have loaded several carts. As for venison and fowls, we have great plenty; we have brought home to our countries by the Indians, seven or eight fat bucks in a day. We went into the river to catch herrings after the Indian fashion. * * * We could have filled a three-bushel sack of as good large herrings as ever I saw. And as to beef and pork, here is great plenty of it, and good sheep. The common grass of this country feeds beef very fat. Indeed, the country, take it as a wilderness, is a brave country."

The father of William Penn had arisen to distinction in the British Navy. He was sent in Cromwell's time, with a considerable sea and land force, to the West Indies, where he reduced the Island of Jamaica under English rule. At the restoration, he gave in his adhesion to the royal cause. Under James, Duke of York, Admiral Penn commanded the English fleet which descended upon the Dutch coast, and gained a great victory over the combined naval forces led by Van Opdam. For this great service to his country, Penn was knighted, and became a favorite at court, the King and his brother, the Duke, holding him in cherished remembrance. At his death, there was due him from the crown the sum of £16,000, a portion of which he himself had advanced for the sea service. Filled with the romantic idea of colonization, and enamored with the sacred cause of his people, the son, who had come to be regarded with favor for his great father's sake, petitioned King Charles II to grant him, in liquidation of this debt, "a tract of land in America, lying north of Maryland, bounded east by the Delaware River, on the west limited as Maryland, and northward to extend as far as plantable." There were conflicting interests at this time which were being warily watched at court. The petition was submitted to the Privy Council, and afterward to the Lords of the committee of plantations. The Duke of York already held the counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex. Lord Baltimore held a grant upon the south, with an indefinite northern limit, and the agents of both these territories viewed with a jealous eye any new grant that should in any way trench upon their rights. These claims were fully debated and heard by the Lords, and, being a matter in which the King manifested special interest, the Lord Chief Justice, North, and the Attorney General, Sir William Jones, were consulted both as to the grant itself, and the form or manner of making it. Finally, after a careful study of the whole subject, it was determined by the highest authority in the Government to grant to Penn a larger tract than he had asked

for, and the charter was drawn with unexampled liberality, in unequivocal terms of gift and perpetuity of holding, and with remarkable minuteness of detail, and that Penn should have the advantage of any double meaning conveyed in the instrument, the twenty-third and last section provides: "And, if perchance hereafter any doubt or question should arise concerning the true sense and meaning of any word, clause or sentence contained in this our present charter, we will ordain and command that at all times and in all things such interpretation be made thereof, and allowed in any of our courts whatsoever as shall be adjudged most advantageous and favorable unto the said William Penn, his heirs and assigns."

It was a joyful day for Penn when he finally reached the consummation of his wishes, and saw himself invested with almost dictatorial power over a country as large as England itself, destined to become a populous empire. But his exultation was tempered with the most devout Christian spirit, fearful lest in the exercise of his great power he might be led to do something that should be displeasing to God. To his dear friend, Robert Turner, he writes in a modest way: "My true love in the Lord salutes thee and dear friends that love the Lord's precious truth in those parts. Thine I have, and for my business here know that after many waitings, watchings, solicitings and disputes in council, this day my country was confirmed to me under the great seal of England, with large powers and privileges, by the name of Pennsylvania, a name the King would give it in honor of my father. I chose New Wales, being, as this, a pretty hilly country; but Penn being Welsh for a head, as Penmanmoire in Wales, and Penrith in Cumberland, and Penn in Buckinghamshire, the highest land in England, called this Pennsylvania, which is the high or head woodlands; for I proposed, when the Secretary, a Welshman, refused to have it called New Wales, Sylvania, and they added Penn to it; and though I much opposed it, and went to the King to have it struck out and altered, he said it was past, and would take it upon him; nor could twenty guineas move the Under Secretary to vary the name; for I feared lest it should be looked on as a vanity in me, and not as a respect in the King, as it truly was to my father, whom he often mentions with praise. Thou mayest communicate my grant to Friends, and expect shortly my proposals. It is a clear and just thing, and my God, that has given it me through many difficulties, will, I believe, bless and make it the seed of a nation. I shall have a tender care to the government, that it be well laid at first."

Penn had asked that the western boundary should be the same as that of Maryland; but the King made the width from east to west five full degrees. The charter limits were "all that tract, or part, of land, in America, with the islands therein contained as the same is bounded, on the east by Delaware River, from twelve miles distance northwards of New Castle town, unto the three and fortieth degree of northern latitude. * * * * The said land to extend westward five degrees in longitude, to be computed from the said eastern bounds; and the said lands to be bounded on the north by the beginning of the three and fortieth degree of northern latitude, and, on the south, by a circle drawn at twelve miles distance from New Castle northward and westward unto the beginning of the fortieth degree of northern latitude; and then by a straight line westward to the limits of longitude above mentioned."

It is evident that the royal secretaries did not well understand the geography of this section, for by reference to a map it will be seen that the beginning of the fortieth degree, that is, the end of the thirty-ninth, cuts the District of Columbia, and hence Baltimore, and the greater part of Maryland

and a good slice of Virginia would have been included in the clear terms of the chartered limits of Pennsylvania. But the charters of Maryland and Virginia antedated this of Pennsylvania. Still, the terms of the Penn charter were distinct, the beginning of the fortieth degree, whereas those of Maryland were ambiguous, the northern limit being fixed at the fortieth degree; but whether at the beginning or at the ending of the fortieth was not stated. Penn claimed three full degrees of latitude, and when it was found that a controversy was likely to ensue, the King, by the hand of his royal minister, Conway, issued a further declaration, dated at Whitehall, April 2, 1681, in which the wording of the original chartered limits fixed for Pennsylvania were quoted verbatim, and his royal pleasure declared that these limits should be respected "as they tender his majesty's displeasure." This was supposed to settle the matter. But Lord Baltimore still pressed his claim, and the question of southern boundary remained an open one, causing much disquietude to Penn, requiring watchful care at court for more than half a century, and until after the proprietor's death.

We gather from the terms of the charter itself that the King, in making the grant, was influenced "by the commendable desire of Penn to enlarge our British Empire, and promote such useful commodities as may be of benefit to us and our dominions, as also to reduce savage nations by just and gentle manners, to the love of civil society and Christian religion," and out of "regard to the memory and merits of his late father, in divers services, and particularly to his conduct, courage and discretion, under our dearest brother, James, Duke of York, in the signal battle and victory, fought and obtained, against the Dutch fleet, commanded by the Herr Van Opdam in 1665."

The motive for obtaining it on the part of Penn may be gathered from the following extract of a letter to a friend: "For my country I eyed the Lord in obtaining it; and more was I drawn inward to look to Him, and to owe it to His hand and power than to any other way. I have so obtained and desire to keep it, that I may be unworthy of His love, but do that which may answer His kind providence and people."

The charter of King Charles II was dated April 2, 1681. Lest any trouble might arise in the future from claims founded on the grant previously made to the Duke of York, of "Long Island and adjacent territories occupied by the Dutch," the prudent forethought of Penn induced him to obtain a deed, dated August 31, 1682, of the Duke, for Pennsylvania, substantially in the terms of the royal charter. But Penn was still not satisfied. He was cut off from the ocean except by the uncertain navigation of one narrow stream. He therefore obtained from the Duke a grant of New Castle and a district of twelve miles around it, dated on the 24th of August, 1682, and on the same day a further grant from the Duke of a tract extending to Cape Henlopen, embracing the two counties of Kent and Sussex, the two grants comprising what were known as the territories, or the three lower counties, which were for many years a part of Pennsylvania, but subsequently constituted the State of Delaware.

Being now satisfied with his province, and that his titles were secure, Penn drew up such a description of the country as from his knowledge he was able to give, which, together with the royal charter and proclamation, terms of settlement, and other papers pertaining thereto, he published and spread broadcast through the kingdom, taking special pains doubtless to have the documents reach the Friends. The terms of sale of lands were 40 shillings for 100 acres, and 1 shilling per acre rental. The question has been raised, why exact the annual payment of one shilling per acre. The terms of the grant by

Daniel Bemus

the royal charter to Penn were made absolute on the "payment therefor to us, our heirs and successors, two beaver skins, to be delivered at our castle in Windsor, on the 1st day of January in every year," and contingent payment of one-fifth part of all gold and silver which shall from time to time happen to be found clear of all charges." Penn, therefore, held his title only upon the payment of quit-rents. He could consequently give a valid title only by the exacting of quit-rents.

Having now a great province of his own to manage, Penn was obliged to relinquish his share in West New Jersey. He had given largely of his time and energies to its settlement; he had sent 1,400 emigrants, many of them people of high character; had seen farms reclaimed from the forest, the town of Burlington built, meeting houses erected in place of tents for worship, good Government established, and the savage Indians turned to peaceful ways. With satisfaction, therefore, he could now give himself to reclaiming and settling his own province. He had of course in his published account of the country made it appear a desirable place for habitation. But lest any should regret having gone thither when it was too late, he added to his description a caution, "to consider seriously the premises, as well the inconveniency as future ease and plenty; that so none may move rashly or from a fickle, but from a solid mind, having above all things an eye to the providence of God in the disposing of themselves." Nothing more surely points to the goodness of heart of William Penn, the great founder of our State, than this extreme solicitude, lest he might induce any to go to the new country who should afterward regret having gone.

The publication of the royal charter and his description of the country attracted attention, and many purchases of land were made of Penn before leaving England. That these purchasers might have something binding to rely upon, Penn drew up what he termed "conditions or concessions" between himself as proprietor and purchasers in the province. These related to the settling the country, laying out towns, and especially to the treatment of the Indians, who were to have the same rights and privileges, and careful regard as the Europeans. And what is perhaps a remarkable instance of provident forethought, the eighteenth article provides "That, in clearing the ground, care be taken to leave one acre of trees for every five acres cleared, especially to preserve oak and mulberries, for silk and shipping." It could be desired that such a provision might have remained operative in the State for all time.

Encouraged by the manner in which his proposals for settlement were received, Penn now drew up a frame of government, consisting of twenty-four articles and forty laws. These were drawn in a spirit of unexampled fairness and liberality, introduced by an elaborate essay on the just rights of government and governed, and with such conditions and concessions that it should never be in the power of an unjust Governor to take advantage of the people and practice injustice. "For the matter of liberty and privilege, I purpose that which is extraordinary, and leave myself and successors no power of doing mischief, that the will of one man may not hinder that of a whole country. This frame gave impress to the character of the early government. It implanted in the breasts of the people a deep sense of duty, of right, and of obligation in all public affairs, and the relations of man with man, and formed a framework for the future constitution. Penn himself had felt the heavy hand of government for religious opinions and practice' sake. He determined, for the matter of religion, to leave all free to hold such opinions as they might elect, and hence enacted for his State that all who "hold themselves obliged

in conscience, to live peaceably and justly in civil society, shall, in no ways, be molested, nor prejudiced, for their religious persuasion, or practice, in matters of faith and worship, nor shall they be compelled, at any time, to frequent, or maintain, any religious worship, place, or ministry whatever." At this period, such govermental liberality in matters of religion was almost unknown, though Roger Williams in the colony of Rhode Island had previously, under similar circumstances, and having just escaped a like persecution, proclaimed it, as had likewise Lord Baltimore in the Catholic colony of Maryland.

The mind of Penn was constantly exercised upon the affairs of his settlement. Indeed, to plant a colony in a new country had been a thought of his boyhood, for he says in one of his letters: "I had an opening of joy as to these parts in the year 1651, at Oxford, twenty years since." Not being in readiness to go to his province during the first year, he dispatched three ship loads of settlers, and with them sent his cousin, William Markham, to take formal possession of the country and act as Deputy Governor Markham sailed for New York, and upon his arrival there exhibited his commission, bearing date March 6, 1681, and the King's charter and proclamation. In the absence of Gov. Andros, who, on having been called to account for some complaint made against him, had gone to England, Capt. Anthony Brockholls, Acting Governor, received Markham's papers, and gave him a letter addressed to the civil officers on the Delaware, informing them that Markham's authority as Governor had been examined, and an official record made of it at New York, thanking them for their fidelity, and requesting them to submit themselves to the new authority. Armed with this letter, which was dated June 21, 1681, Markham proceeded to the Delaware, where, on exhibiting his papers, he was kindly received, and allegiance was cheerfully transferred to the new government. Indeed so frequently had the power changed hands that it had become quite a matter of habit to transfer obedience from one authority to another, and they had scarcely laid their heads to rest at night but with the consciousness that the morning light might bring new codes and new officers.

Markham was empowered to call a council of nine citizens to assist him in the government, and over whom he was to preside. He brought a letter addressed to Lord Baltimore, touching the boundary between the two grants, and exhibiting the terms of the charter for Pennsylvania. On receipt of this letter, Lord Baltimore came to Upland to confer with Markham. An observation fixing the exact latitude of Upland showed that it was twelve miles south of the forty-first degree, to which Baltimore claimed, and that the beginning of the fortieth degree, which the royal charter explicitly fixed for the southern boundary of Pennsylvania, would include nearly the entire State of Maryland, and cut the limits of the present site of the city of Washington. "If this be allowed," was significantly asked by Baltimore, "where is my province?" He returned to his colony, and from this time forward an active contention was begun before the authorities in England for possession of the disputed territory, which required all the arts and diplomatic skill of Penn.

Markham was accompanied to the province by four Commissioners sent out by Penn—William Crispin, John Bezer, William Haige and Nathaniel Allen. The first named had been designated as Surveyor General, but he having died on the passage, Thomas Holme was appointed to succeed him. These Commissioners, in conjunction with the Governor, had two chief duties assigned them. The first was to meet and preserve friendly relations with the Indians and acquire lands by actual purchase, and the second was to select the site of a great city and make the necessary surveys. That they might have a

suitable introduction to the natives from him, Penn addressed to them a declaration of his purposes, conceived in a spirit of brotherly love, and expressed in such simple terms that these children of the forest, unschooled in book learning, would have no difficulty in apprehending his meaning. The referring the source of all power to the Creator was fitted to produce a strong impression upon their naturally superstitious habits of thought. "There is a great God and power, that hath made the world, and all things therein, to whom you and I, and all people owe their being, and well being; and to whom you and I must one day give an account for all that we do in the world. This great God hath written His law in our hearts, by which we are taught and commanded to love, and help, and do good to one another. Now this great God hath been pleased to make me concerned in your part of the world, and the King of the country where I live hath given me a great province therein; but I desire to enjoy it with your love and consent, that we may always live together, as neighbors and friends; else what would the great God do to us, who hath made us, not to devour and destroy one another, but to live soberly and kindly together in the world? Now I would have you well observe that I am very sensible of the unkindness and injustice that have been too much exercised toward you by the people of these parts of the world, who have sought themselves, and to make great advantages by you, rather than to be examples of goodness and patience unto you, which I hear hath been a matter of trouble to you, and caused great grudging and animosities, sometimes to the shedding of blood, which hath made the great God angry. But I am not such a man, as is well known in my own country. I have great love and regard toward you, and desire to gain your love and friendship by a kind, just and peaceable life, and the people I send are of the same mind, and shall in all things behave themselves accordingly; and if in anything any shall offend you or your people, you shall have a full and speedy satisfaction for the same by an equal number of just men on both sides that by no means you may have just occasion of being offended against them. I shall shortly come to you myself, at which time we may more largely and freely confer and discourse of these matters. In the meantime, I have sent my Commissioners to treat with you about land, and form a league of peace. Let me desire you to be kind to them and their people, and receive these presents and tokens which I have sent you as a testimony of my good will to you, and my resolution to live justly, peaceably and friendly with you."

In this plain but sublime statement is embraced the whole theory of William Penn's treatment of the Indians. It was the doctrine which the Savior of mankind came upon earth to promulgate—the estimable worth of every human soul. And when Penn came to propose his laws, one was adopted which forbade private trade with the natives in which they might be overreached; but it was required that the valuable skins and furs they had to sell should be hung up in the market place where all could see them and enter into competition for their purchase. Penn was offered £6,000 for a monopoly of trade. But he well knew the injustice to which this would subject the simple-minded natives, and he refused it saying: "As the Lord gave it me over all and great opposition, I would not abuse His love, nor act unworthy of His providence, and so defile what came to me clean"—a sentiment worthy to be treasured with the best thoughts of the sages of old. And to his Commissioners he gave a letter of instructions, in which he says: "Be impartially just to all; that is both pleasing to the Lord, and wise in itself. Be tender of offending the Indians, and let them know that you come to sit down lovingly among them. Let my letter and conditions be read in their tongue, that they may see

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t boating and lightening of it. It would do well if the river
t… at creek be navigable, at least for boats up into the country,
and … situation be high, at least dry and sound and not swampy, which
is best … own by digging up two or three earths and seeing the bottom." By
his instructions, the site of the city was to be between two navigable streams,
and embrace 10,000 acres in one block. "Be sure to settle the figure of the
town so that the streets hereafter may be uniform down to the water from the
country bounds. Let every house be placed, if the person pleases, in the
middle of its plat, as to the breadth way of it, that so there may be ground on
each side for gardens or orchards or fields, that it may be a green country town,
which will never be burnt and always wholesome." The soil was examined,
the streams were sounded, deep pits were dug that a location might be found
which should gratify the desires of Penn. All the eligible sites were inspected
from the ocean far up into the country. Penn himself had anticipated that
Chester or Upland would be adopted from all that he could learn of it; but
this was rejected, as was also the ground upon Poquessing Creek and that at
Pennsbury Manor above Bristol which had been carefully considered, and the
present site of Philadelphia was finally adopted as coming nearest to the
requirements of the proprietor. It had not 10,000 acres in a solid square, but
it was between two navigable streams, and the soil was high and dry, being for
the most part a vast bed of gravel, excellent for drainage and likely to prove
healthful. The streets were laid out regularly and crossed each other at
right angles. As the ground was only gently rolling, the grading was easily
accomplished. One broad street, Market, extends from river to river through
the midst of it, which is crossed at right angles at its middle point by Broad
street of equal width. It is 120 miles from the ocean by the course of the
river, and only sixty in a direct line, eighty-seven miles from New York,
ninety-five from Baltimore, 136 from Washington, 100 from Harrisburg and
300 from Pittsburgh, and lies in north latitude 39° 56′ 54″, and longitude 75°
8′ 45″ west from Greenwich The name Philadelphia (brotherly love), was
one that Penn had before selected, as this founding a city was a project which
he had long dreamed of and contemplated with never-ceasing interest.

CHAPTER VI.

WILLIAM MARKHAM, 1681-82—WILLIAM PENN, 1682-84.

HAVING now made necessary preparations and settled his affairs in England, Penn embarked on board the ship Welcome, in August, 1682, in company with about a hundred planters, mostly from his native town of Sussex, and set his prow for the New World. Before leaving the Downs, he addressed a farewell letter to his friends whom he left behind, and another to his wife and children, giving them much excellent advice, and sketching the way of life he wished them to lead. With remarkable care and minuteness, he points out the way in which he would have his children bred, and educated, married, and live. A single passage from this remarkable document will indicate its general tenor. "Be sure to observe," in educating his children, "their genius, and do not cross it as to learning; let them not dwell too long on one thing; but let their change be agreeable, and let all their diversions have some little bodily labor in them. When grown big, have most care for them; for then there are more snares both within and without. When marriageable, see that they have worthy persons in their eye; of good life and good fame for piety and understanding. I need no wealth but sufficiency; and be sure their love be dear, fervent and mutual, that it may be happy for them." And to his children he said, "Betake yourselves to some honest, industrious course of life, and that not of sordid covetousness, but for example and to avoid idleness. * * * * * Love not money nor the world; use them only, and they will serve you; but if you love them you serve them, which will debase your spirits as well as offend the Lord. * * * * * Watch against anger, neither speak nor act in it; for, like drunkenness, it makes a man a beast, and throws people into desperate inconveniences." The entire letters are so full of excellent counsel that they might with great profit be committed to memory, and treasured in the heart.

The voyage of nearly six weeks was prosperous; but they had not been long on the ocean before that loathed disease—the virulent small-pox—broke out, of which thirty died, nearly a third of the whole company. This, added to the usual discomforts and terrors of the ocean, to most of whom this was probably their first experience, made the voyage a dismal one. And here was seen the nobility of Penn. "For his good conversation" says one of them, "was very advantageous to all the company. His singular care was manifested in contributing to the necessities of many who were sick with the small-pox then on board."

His arrival upon the coast and passage up the river was hailed with demonstrations of joy by all classes, English, Dutch, Swedes, and especially by his own devoted followers. He landed at New Castle on the 24th of October, 1682, and on the following day summoned the people to the court house, where possession of the country was formally made over to him, and he renewed the commissions of the magistrates, to whom and to the assembled people he announced the design of his coming, explained the nature and end of truly good government, assuring them that their religious and civil rights should be respected, and recommended them to live in sobriety and peace. He then pro-

ceeded to Upland, henceforward known as Chester, where, on the 4th of November, he called an assembly of the people, in which an equal number of votes was allowed to the province and the territories. Nicholas Moore, President of the Free Society of Traders, was chosen speaker. As at New Castle, Penn addressed the assembly, giving them assurances of his beneficent intentions, for which they returned their grateful acknowledgments, the Swedes being especially demonstrative, deputing one of their number, Lacy Cock, to say "That they would love, serve and obey him with all they had, and that this was the best day they ever saw." We can well understand with what satisfaction the settlers upon the Delaware hailed the prospect of a stable government established in their own midst, after having been so long at the mercy of the government in New York, with allegience trembling between the courts of Sweden, Holland and Britain.

The proceedings of this first assembly were conducted with great decorum, and after the usages of the English Parliament. On the 7th of December, 1682, the three lower counties, what is now Delaware, which had previously been under the government of the Duke of York, were formerly annexed to the province, and became an integral part of Pennsylvania. The frame of government, which had been drawn with much deliberation, was submitted to the assembly, and, after some alterations and amendments, was adopted, and became the fundamental law of the State. The assembly was in session only three days, but the work they accomplished, how vast and far-reaching in its influence!

The Dutch, Swedes and other foreigners were then naturalized, and the government was launched in fair running order: That some idea may be had of its character, the subjects treated are here given: 1, Liberty of conscience; 2, Qualification of officers; 3, Swearing by God, Christ or Jesus; 4, Swearing by any other thing or name; 5, Profanity; 6, Cursing; 7, Fornication; 8, Incest; 9, Sodomy; 10, Rape; 11, Bigamy; 12, Drunkenness; 13, Suffering drunkenness; 14, Healths drinking; 15, Selling liquor to Indians; 16, Arson; 17, Burglary; 18, Stolen goods; 19, Forcible entry; 20, Riots; 21, Assaulting parents; 22, Assaulting Magistrates; 23, Assaulting masters; 24, Assault and battery; 25, Duels; 26, Riotous sports, as plays; 27, Gambling and lotteries; 28, Sedition; 29, Contempt; 30, Libel; 31, Common scolds; 32, Charities; 33, Prices of beer and ale; 34, Weights and measures; 35, Names of days and months; 36, Perjury; 37, Court proceedings in English; 38, Civil and criminal trials; 39, Fees, salaries, bribery and extortion; 40, Moderation of fines; 41, Suits avoidable; 42, Foreign arrest; 43, Contracts; 44, Charters, gifts, grants, conveyances, bills, bonds and deeds, when recorded; 45, Wills; 46, Wills of *non compos mentis*; 47, Registry of Wills; 48, Registry for servants; 49, Factors; 50, Defacers, corruptors and embezzlers of charters, conveyances and records; 51, Lands and goods to pay debts; 52, Bailable offenses; 53, Jails and jailers; 54, Prisons to be workhouses; 55, False imprisonment; 56, Magistrates may elect between fine or imprisonment; 57, Freemen; 58, Elections; 59, No money levied but in pursuance of law; 60, Laws shall be printed and taught in schools; 61, All other things, not provided for herein, are referred to the Governor and freemen from time to time.

Very soon after his arrival in the colony, after the precept had been issued, but before the convening of the Assembly, Penn, that he might not be wanting in respect to the Duke of York, made a visit to New York, where he was kindly received, and also after the adjournment of the Assembly, journeyed to Maryland, where he was entertained by Lord Baltimore with great ceremony. The settlement of the disputed boundaries was made the subject of formal confer-

ence. But after two days spent in fruitless discussion, the weather becoming severely cold, and thus precluding the possibility of taking observations or making the necessary surveys, it was agreed to adjourn further consideration of the subject until the milder weather of the spring. We may imagine that the two Governors were taking the measure of each other, and of gaining all possible knowledge of each other's claims and rights, preparatory to that struggle for possession of this disputed fortieth degree of latitude, which was destined to come before the home government.

With all his cares in founding a State and providing a government over a new people, Penn did not forget to preach the "blessed Gospel," and wherever he went he was intent upon his "Master's business." On his return from Maryland, Lord Baltimore accompanied him several miles to the house of William Richardson, and thence to Thomas Hooker's, where was a religious meeting, as was also one held at Choptauk. Penn himself says: "I have been also at New York, Long Island, East Jersey and Maryland, in which I have had good and eminent service for the Lord." And again he says: "As to outward things, we are satisfied—the land good, the air clear and sweet, the springs plentiful, and provisions good and easy to come at, an innumerable quantity of wild fowl and fish; in fine, here is what an Abraham, Isaac and Jacob would be well contented with, and service enough for God: for the fields are here white for the harvest. O, how sweet is the quiet of these parts, freed from the anxious and troublesome solicitations, hurries and perplexities of woeful Europe! * * * Blessed be the Lord, that of twenty-three ships, none miscarried; only two or three had the small-pox; else healthy and swift passages, generally such as have not been known; some but twenty-eight days, and few longer than six weeks. Blessed be God for it; my soul fervently breathes that in His heavenly guiding wisdom, we may be kept, that we may serve Him in our day, and lay down our heads in peace." And then, as if reproached for not having mentioned another subject of thankfulness, he adds in a postscript, "Many women, in divers of the ships, brought to bed; they and their children do well."

Penn made it his first care to take formal possession of his province, and adopt a frame of government. When this was done, his chief concern was to look to the establishment of his proposed new city, the site of which had already been determined on by his Commissioners. Accordingly, early in November, at a season when, in this section, the days are golden, Penn embarked in an open barge with a number of his friends, and was wafted leisurely up the Delaware to the present site of the city of Philadelphia, which the natives called Coaquannock. Along the river was a bold shore, fringed with lofty pines, which grew close down to the water's edge, so much so that when the first ship passing up with settlers for West Jersey had brushed against the branches, the passengers remarked that this would be a good place for a city. It was then in a wild state, the deer browsing along the shore and sipping the stream, and the coneys burrowing in the banks. The scattered settlers had gathered in to see and welcome the new Governor, and when he stepped upon the shore, they extended a helping hand in assisting him up the rugged bluff. Three Swedes had already taken up tracts within the limits of the block of land chosen for the city. But they were given lands in exchange, and readily relinquished their claims. The location was pleasing to Penn, and was adopted without further search, though little could be seen of this then forest-encumbered country, where now is the home of countless industries, the busy mart, the river bearing upon its bosom the commerce of many climes, and the abiding place of nearly a million of people. But Penn did not con-

sider that he had as yet any just title to the soil, holding that the Indians were its only rightful possessors, and until it was fairly acquired by purchase from them, his own title was entirely void.

Hence, he sought an early opportunity to meet the chiefs of the tribes and cultivate friendly relations with them. Tradition fixes the first great treaty or conference at about this time, probably in November, and the place under the elm tree, known as the "Treaty Tree," at Kensington. It was at a season when the leaves would still be upon the trees, and the assembly was called beneath the ample shade of the wide-sweeping branches, which was pleasing to the Indians, as it was their custom to hold all their great deliberations and smoke the pipe of peace in the open air. The letter which Penn had sent had prepared the minds of these simple-hearted inhabitants of the forest to regard him with awe and reverence, little less than that inspired by a descended god. His coming had for a long time been awaited, and it is probable that it had been heralded and talked over by the wigwam fire throughout the remotest bounds of the tribes. And when at length the day came, the whole population far around had assembled.

It is known that three tribes at least were represented—the Lenni Lenape, living along the Delaware; the Shawnees, a tribe that had come up from the South, and were seated along the Lower Susquehanna; and the Mingoes, sprung from the Six Nations, and inhabiting along the Conestoga. Penn was probably accompanied by the several officers of his Government and his most trusted friends. There were no implements of warfare, for peace was a cardinal feature of the Quaker creed.

No veritable account of this, the great treaty, is known to have been made; but from the fact that Penn not long after, in an elaborate treatise upon the country, the inhabitants and the natives, has given the account of the manner in which the Indians demean themselves in conference, we may infer that he had this one in mind, and hence we may adopt it as his own description of the scene.

"Their order is thus: The King sits in the middle of a half moon, and hath his council, the old and wise, on each hand; behind them, or at a little distance, sit the younger fry in the same figure. Having consulted and resolved their business, the King ordered one of them to speak to me. He stood up, came to me, and, in the name of the King, saluted me; then took me by the hand and told me he was ordered by the King to speak to me; and now it was not he, but the King that spoke, because what he would say was the King's mind. * * * * During the time that this person spoke, not a man of them was observed to whisper or smile; the old grave, the young reverant, in their deportment. They speak little, but fervently, and with elegance."

In response to the salutation from the Indians, Penn makes a reply in suitable terms: "The Great Spirit, who made me and you, who rules the heavens and the earth, and who knows the innermost thoughts of men, knows that I and my friends have a hearty desire to live in peace and friendship with you, and to serve you to the uttermost of our power. It is not our custom to use hostile weapons against our fellow-creatures, for which reason we have come unarmed. Our object is not to do injury, and thus provoke the Great Spirit, but to do good. We are met on the broad pathway of good faith and good will, so that no advantage is to be taken on either side; but all to be openness, brotherhood and love." Having unrolled his parchment, he explains to them through an interpreter, article by article, the nature of the business, and laying it upon the ground, observes that the ground shall be for the use of

both people. "I will not do as the Marylanders did, call you children, or brothers only; for parents are apt to whip their children too severely, and brothers sometimes will differ; neither will I compare the friendship between us to a chain, for the rain may rust it, or a tree may fall and break it; but I will consider you as the same flesh and blood with the Christians, and the same as if one man's body were to be divided into two parts." Having ended his business, the speaker for the King comes forward and makes great promises "of kindness and good neighborhood, and that the Indians and English must live in love as long as the sun gave light." This ended, another Indian makes a speech to his own people, first to explain to them what had been agreed on, and then to exhort them "to love the Christians, and particularly live in peace with me and the people under my government, that many Governors had been in the river, but that no Governor had come himself to live and stay here before, and having now such an one, that had treated them well, they should never do him nor his any wrong." At every sentence they shouted, as much as to say, amen.

The Indians had no system of writing by which they could record their dealings, but their memory of events and agreements was almost miraculous. Heckewelder records that in after years, they were accustomed, by means of strings, or belts of wampum, to preserve the recollection of their pleasant interviews with Penn, after he had departed for England. He says, "They frequently assembled together in the woods, in some shady spot, as nearly as possible similar to those where they used to meet their brother Miquon (Penn), and there lay all his words and speeches, with those of his descendants, on a blanket, or clean piece of bark, and with great satisfaction go successively over the whole. This practice, which I have repeatedly witnessed, continued until the year 1780, when disturbances which took place put an end to it, probably forever."

The memory of this, the "Great Treaty," was long preserved by the natives, and the novel spectacle was reproduced upon canvas by the genius of Benjamin West. In this picture, Penn is represented as a corpulent old man, whereas he was at this time but thirty-eight years of age, and in the very height of manly activity. The Treaty Tree was preserved and guarded from injury with an almost superstitious care. During the Revolution, when Philadelphia was occupied by the British, and their parties were scouring the country for firewood, Gen. Simcoe had a sentinel placed at this tree to protect it from mutilation. It stood until 1810, when it was blown down, and it was ascertained by its annual concentric accretions to be 283 years old, and was, consequently, 155 at the time of making the treaty. The Penn Society erected a substantial monument on the spot where it stood.

Penn drew up his deeds for lands in legal form, and had them duly executed and made of record, that, in the dispute possible to arise in after times, there might be proof definite and positive of the purchase. Of these purchases there are two deeds on record executed in 1683. One is for land near Neshaminy Creek, and thence to Penypack, and the other for lands lying between Schuylkill and Chester Rivers, the first bearing the signature of the great chieftain, Taminend. In one of these purchases it is provided that the tract "shall extend back as far as a man could walk in three days." Tradition runs that Penn himself, with a number of his friends, walked out the half this purchase with the Indians, that no advantage should be taken of them by making a great walk, and to show his consideration for them, and that he was not above the toils and fatigues of such a duty." They began to walk out this land at the mouth of the Neshaminy, and walked up the Delaware; in one day

and a half they got to a spruce tree near the mouth of Baker's Creek, when Penn, concluding that this would include as much land as he would want at present, a line was run and marked from the spruce tree to Neshaminy, and the remainder left to be walked when it should be wanted. They proceeded after the Indian manner, walking leisurely, sitting down sometimes to smoke their pipes, eat biscuit and cheese, and drink a bottle of wine. In the day and a half they walked a little less than thirty miles. The balance of the purchase was not walked until September 20, 1733, when the then Governor of Pennsylvania offered a prize of 500 acres of land and £5 for the man who would walk the farthest. A distance of eighty-six miles was covered, in marked contrast with the kind consideration of Penn.

During the first year, the country upon the Delaware, from the falls of Trenton as far as Chester, a distance of nearly sixty miles, was rapidly taken up and peopled. The large proportion of these were Quakers, and devotedly attached to their religion and its proper observances. They were, hence, morally, of the best classes, and though they were not generally of the aristocracy, yet many of them were in comfortable circumstances, had valuable properties, were of respectable families, educated, and had the resources within themselves to live contented and happy. They were provident, industrious, and had come hither with no fickle purpose. Many brought servants with them, and well supplied wardrobes, and all necessary articles which they wisely judged would be got in a new country with difficulty.

Their religious principles were so peaceful and generous, and the government rested so lightly, that the fame of the colony and the desirableness of settlement therein spread rapidly, and the numbers coming hither were unparalleled in the history of colonization, especially when we consider that a broad ocean was to be crossed and a voyage of several weeks was to be endured. In a brief period, ships with passengers came from London, Bristol, Ireland, Wales, Cheshire, Lancashire, Holland, Germany, to the number of about fifty. Among others came a company of German Quakers, from Krisheim, near Worms, in the Palatinate. These people regarded their lot as particularly fortunate, in which they recognized the direct interposition and hand of Providence. For, not long afterward, the Palatinate was laid waste by the French army, and many of their kindred whom they had left behind were despoiled of their possessions and reduced to penury. There came also from Wales a company of the stock of ancient Britons.

So large an influx of population, coming in many cases without due provision for variety of diet, caused a scarcity in many kinds of food, especially of meats. Time was required to bring forward flocks and herds, more than for producing grains. But Providence seemed to have graciously considered their necessities, and have miraculously provided for them, as of old was pro vision made for the chosen people. For it is recorded that the "wild pigeons came in such great numbers that the sky was sometimes darkened by their flight, and, flying low, they were frequently knocked down as they flew, in great quantities, by those who had no other means to take them, whereby they supplied themselves, and, having salted those which they could not immediately use, they preserved them, both for bread and meat." The Indians were kind, and often furnished them with game, for which they would receive no compensation.

Their first care on landing was to bring their household goods to a place of safety, often to the simple protection of a tree. For some, this was their only shelter, lumber being scarce, and in many places impossible to obtain.

Some made for themselves caves in the earth until better habitations could be secured.

John Key, who was said to have been the first child born of English parents in Philadelphia, and that in recognition of which William Penn gave him a lot of ground, died at Kennet, in Chester County, on July 5, 1768, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. He was born in one of these caves upon the river bank, long afterward known by the name of Penny-pot, near Sassafras street. About six years before his death, he walked from Kennet to the city, about thirty miles, in one day. In the latter part of his life he went under the name of First Born.

The contrasts between the comforts and conveniences of an old settled country and this, where the heavy forests must be cleared away and severe labors must be endured before the sun could be let in sufficiently to produce anything, must have been very marked, and caused repining. But they had generally come with meek and humble hearts, and they willingly endured hardship and privation, and labored on earnestly for the spiritual comfort which they enjoyed. Thomas Makin, in some Latin verses upon the early settlement, says (we quote the metrical translation):

> "Its fame to distant countries far has spread,
> And some for peace, and some for profit led;
> Born in remotest climes, to settle here
> They leave their native soil and all that's dear,
> And still will flock from far, here to be free,
> Such powerful charms has lovely liberty."

But for their many privations and sufferings there were some compensating conditions. The soil was fertile, the air mostly clear and healthy, the streams of water were good and plentiful, wood for fire and building unlimited, and at certain seasons of the year game in the forest was abundant. Richard Townsend, a settler at Germantown, who came over in the ship with Penn, in writing to his friends in England of his first year in America, says: "I, with Joshua Tittery, made a net, and caught great quantities of fish, so that, notwithstanding it was thought near three thousand persons came in the first year, we were so providentially provided for that we could buy a deer for about two shillings, and a large turkey for about one shilling, and Indian corn for about two shillings sixpence a bushel."

In the same letter, the writer mentions that a young deer came out of the forest into the meadow where he was mowing, and looked at him, and when he went toward it would retreat; and, as he resumed his mowing, would come back to gaze upon him, and finally ran forcibly against a tree, which so stunned it that he was able to overmaster it and bear it away to his home, and as this was at a time when he was suffering for the lack of meat, he believed it a direct interposition of Providence.

In the spring of 1683, there was great activity throughout the colony, and especially in the new city, in selecting lands and erecting dwellings, the Surveyor General, Thomas Holme, laying out and marking the streets. In the center of the city was a public square of ten acres, and in each of the four quarters one of eight acres. A large mansion, which had been undertaken before his arrival, was built for Penn, at a point twenty-six miles up the river, called Pennsbury Manor, where he sometimes resided, and where he often met the Indian sachems. At this time, Penn divided the colony into counties, three for the province (Bucks, Philadelphia and Chester) and three for the Territories (New Castle, Kent and Sussex). Having appointed Sheriffs and other proper officers, he issued writs for the election of members of a General

Assembly, three from each county for the Council or Upper House, and nine from each county for the Assembly or Lower House.*

This Assembly convened and organized for business on the 10th of January, 1683, at Philadelphia. One of the first subjects considered was the revising some provisions of the frame of government which was effected, reducing the number of members of both Houses, the Council to 18 the Assembly to 36, and otherwise amending in unimportant particulars. In an assembly thus convened, and where few, if any, had had any experience in serving in a deliberative body, we may reasonably suppose that many crude and impracticable propositions would be presented. As an example of these the following may be cited as specimens: That young men should be obliged to marry at, or before, a certain age; that two sorts of clothes only shall be worn, one for winter and the other for summer. The session lasted twenty two days.

The first grand jury in Pennsylvania was summoned for the 2d of February, 1683, to inquire into the cases of some persons accused of issuing counterfeit money. The Governor and Council sat as a court. One Pickering was convicted, and the sentence was significant of the kind and patriarchal nature of the government, "that he should make full satisfaction, in good and current pay, to every person who should, within the space of one month, bring in any of this false, base and counterfeit coin, and that the money brought in should be melted down before it was returned to him, and that he should pay a fine of forty pounds toward the building a court house, stand committed till the same was paid, and afterward find security for his good behavior."

The Assembly and courts having now adjourned, Penn gave his attention to the grading and improving the streets of the new city, and the managing the affairs of his land office, suddenly grown to great importance. For every section of land taken up in the wilderness, the purchaser was entitled to a certain plot in the new city. The River Delaware at this time was nearly a mile broad opposite the city, and navigable for ships of the largest tonnage. The tide rises about six feet at this point, and flows back to the falls of Trenton, a distance of thirty miles. The tide in the Schuylkill flows only about five miles above its confluence with the Delaware. The river bank along the Delaware was intended by Penn as a common or public resort. But in his time the owners of lots above Front street pressed him to allow them to construct warehouses upon it, opposite their properties, which importunity induced him to make the following declaration concerning it: "The bank is a top common, from end to end; the rest next the water belongs to front-lot men no more than back-lot men. The way bounds them; they may build stairs, and the top of the bank a common exchange, or wall, and against the street, common wharfs may be built freely; but into the water, and the shore is no purchaser's." But in future time, this liberal desire of the founder was disregarded, and the bank has been covered with immense warehouses.

* It may be a matter of curiosity to know the names of the members of this first regularly elected Legislature in Pennsylvania, and they are accordingly appended as given in official records:

Council: William Markham, Christopher Taylor, Thomas Holme, Lacy Cock, William Haige, John Moll, Ralph Withers, John Simcock, Edward Cantwell, William Clayton, William Biles, James Harrison, William Clark, Francis Whitewell, John Richardson, John Hillyard.

Assembly: From Bucks, William Yardly, Samuel Darke, Robert Lucas, Nicholas Walne, John Wood, John Clowes, Thomas Fitzwater, Robert Hall, James Boyden; from Philadelphia, John Longhurst, John Hart, Walter King, Andros Binkson, John Moon, Thomas Wynne (Speaker), Griffith Jones, William Warner, Swan Swanson, from Chester, John Hoskins, Robert Wade, George Wood, John Blunston, Dennis Rochford, Thomas Bracy, John Bezer, John Harding, Joseph Phipps; from New Castle, John Cann, John Darby, Valentine Hollingsworth, Gasparus Herman, John Dehoaef, James Williams, William Guest, Peter Alrich, Henrick Williams; from Kent, John Biggs, Simon Irons, Thomas Hatfold John Curtis, Robert Bedwell, William Windsmore, John Brinkloe, Daniel Brown, Benony Bishop; from Sussex, Luke Watson, Alexander Draper, William Futcher, Henry Bowman, Alexander Moleston, John Hill, Robert Bracy, John Kipshaven, Cornelius Verhoof.

Seeing now his plans of government and settlement fairly in operation, as autumn approached, Penn wrote a letter to the Free Society of Traders in London, which had been formed to promote settlement in his colony, in which he touched upon a great variety of topics regarding his enterprise, extending to quite a complete treatise. The great interest attaching to the subjects discussed, and the ability with which it was drawn, makes it desirable to insert the document entire; but its great length makes its use incompatible with the plan of this work. A few extracts and a general plan of the letter is all that can be given. He first notices the injurious reports put in circulation in England during his absence: "Some persons have had so little wit and so much malice as to report my death; and, to mend the matter, dead a Jesuit, too. One might have reasonably hoped that this distance, like death, would have been a protection against spite and envy. * * * However, to the great sorrow and shame of the inventors, I am still alive and no Jesuit, and, I thank God, very well." Of the air and waters he says: "The air is sweet and clear, the heavens serene, like the south parts of France, rarely overcast. The waters are generally good, for the rivers and brooks have mostly gravel and stony bottoms, and in number hardly credible. We also have mineral waters that operate in the same manner with Barnet and North Hall, not two miles from Philadelphia." He then treats at length of the four seasons, of trees, fruits, grapes, peaches, grains, garden produce; of animals, beasts, birds, fish, whale fishery, horses and cattle, medicinal plants, flowers of the woods; of the Indians and their persons. Of their language he says: "It is lofty, yet narrow; but, like the Hebrew, in signification, full, imperfect in their tenses, wanting in their moods, participles, adverbs, conjunctions, interjections. I have made it my business to understand it, and I must say that I know not a language spoken in Europe that hath words of more sweetness or greatness in accent and emphasis than theirs." Of their customs and their children: "The children will go very young, at nine months, commonly; if boys, they go a fishing, till ripe for the woods, which is about fifteen; then they hunt, and, after having given some proofs of their manhood by a good return of skins, they may marry, else it is a shame to think of a wife. The girls stay with their mother and help to hoe the ground, plant corn and carry burdens. When the young women are fit for marriage, they wear something upon their heads as an advertisment; but so, as their faces hardly to be seen, but when they please. The age they marry at, if women, is about thirteen and fourteen; if men, seventeen and eighteen; they are rarely elder." In a romantic vein he speaks of their houses, diet, hospitality, revengefulness and concealment of resentment, great liberality, free manner of life and customs, late love of strong liquor, behavior in sickness and death, their religion, their feastings, their government, their mode of doing business, their manner of administering justice, of agreement for settling difficulties entered into with the pen, their susceptibility to improvement, of the origin of the Indian race their resemblance to the Jews. Of the Dutch and Swedes whom he found settled here when he came, he says: "The Dutch applied themselves to traffick, the Swedes and Finns to husbandry. The Dutch mostly inhabit those parts that lie upon the bay, and the Swedes the freshes of the Delaware. They are a plain, strong, industrious people; yet have made no great progress in culture or propagation of fruit trees. They are a people proper, and strong of body, so they have fine children, and almost every house full; rare to find one of them without three or four boys and as many girls—some, six, seven and eight sons, and I must do them that right, I see few young men more sober and laborious." After speaking at length of the organization of the colony and its manner of government, he concludes with his own opinion of the country: "I say little

of the town itself; but this I will say, for the good providence of God, that of all the many places I have seen in the world, I remember not one better seated, so that it seems to me to have been appointed for a town, whether we regard the rivers or the conveniency of the coves, docks, springs, the loftiness and soundness of the land and the air, held by the people of these parts to be very good. It is advanced within less than a year to about fourscore houses and cottages, where merchants and handicrafts are following their vocations as fast as they can, while the countrymen are close at their farms. * * * I bless God I am fully satisfied with the country and entertainment I got in it; for I find that particular content, which hath always attended me, where God in His providence hath made it my place and service to reside."

As we have seen, the visit of Penn to Lord Baltimore soon after his arrival in America, for the purpose of settling the boundaries of the two provinces, after a two days' conference, proved fruitless, and an adjournment was had for the winter, when the efforts for settlement were to be resumed. Early in the spring, an attempt was made on the part of Penn, but was prevented till May, when a meeting was held at New Castle. Penn proposed to confer by the aid of counselors and in writing. But to this Baltimore objected, and, complaining of the sultryness of the weather, the conference was broken up. In the meantime, it had come to the knowledge of Penn that Lord Baltimore had issued a proclamation offering settlers more land, and at cheaper rates than Penn had done, in portions of the lower counties which Penn had secured from the Duke of York, but which Baltimore now claimed. Besides, it was ascertained that an agent of his had taken an observation, and determined the latitude without the knowledge of Penn, and had secretly made an *ex parte* statement of the case before the Lords of the Committee of Plantations in England, and was pressing for arbitrament. This state of the case created much uneasiness in the mind of Penn, especially as the proclamation of Lord Baltimore was likely to bring the two governments into conflict on territory mutually claimed. But Lord Baltimore was not disposed to be content with diplomacy. He determined to pursue an aggressive policy. He accordingly commissioned his agent, Col. George Talbot, under date of September 17, 1683, to go to Schuylkill, at Delaware, and demand of William Penn "all that part of the land on the west side of the said river that lyeth to the southward of the fortieth degree." This bold demand would have embraced the entire colony, both the lower counties, and the three counties in the province, as the fortieth degree reaches a considerable distance above Philadelphia. Penn was absent at the time in New York, and Talbot made his demand upon Nicholas Moore, the deputy of Penn. Upon his return, the proprietor made a dignified but earnest rejoinder. While he felt that the demand could not be justly sustained, yet the fact that a controversy for the settlement of the boundary was likely to arise, gave him disquietude, and though he was gratified with the success of his plans for acquiring lands of the Indians and establishing friendly relations with them, the laying-out of his new city and settling it, the adoption of a stable government and putting it in successful operation, and, more than all, the drawing thither the large number of settlers, chiefly of his own religious faith, and seeing them contented and happy in the new State, he plainly foresaw that his skill and tact would be taxed to the utmost to defend and hold his claim before the English court. If the demand of Lord Baltimore were to prevail, all that he had done would be lost, as his entire colony would be swallowed up by Maryland.

The anxiety of Penn to hold from the beginning of the 40° of latitude was not to increase thereby his territory by so much, for two degrees which he

securely had, so far as amount of land was concerned, would have entirely satisfied him; but he wanted this degree chiefly that he might have the free navigation of Delaware Bay and River, and thus open communication with the ocean. He desired also to hold the lower counties, which were now well settled, as well as his own counties rapidly being peopled, and his new city of Philadelphia, which he regarded as the apple of his eye. So anxious was he to hold the land on the right bank of the Delaware to the open ocean, that at his second meeting, he asked Lord Baltimore to set a price per square mile on this disputed ground, and though he had purchased it once of the crown and held the King's charter for it, and the Duke of York's deed, yet rather than have any further wrangle over it, he was willing to pay for it again. But this Lord Baltimore refused to do.

Bent upon bringing matters to a crisis, and to force possession of his claim, early in the year 1684 a party from Maryland made forcible entry upon the plantations in the lower counties and drove off the owners. The Governor and Council at Philadelphia sent thither a copy of the answer of Penn to Baltimore's demand for the land south of the Delaware, with orders to William Welch, Sheriff at New Castle, to use his influence to reinstate the lawful owners, and issued a declaration succinctly stating the claim of Penn, for the purpose of preventing such unlawful incursions in future.

The season opened favorably for the continued prosperity of the young colony. Agriculture was being prosecuted as never before. Goodly flocks and herds gladdened the eyes of the settlers. An intelligent, moral and industrious yeomanry was springing into existence. Emigrants were pouring into the Delaware from many lands. The Government was becoming settled in its operations and popular with the people. The proprietor had leisure to attend to the interests of his religious society, not only in his own dominions, but in the Jerseys and in New York.

CHAPTER VII.

THOMAS LLOYD, 1684–86—FIVE COMMISSIONERS, 1686–88—JOHN BLACKWELL, 1688–90—THOMAS LLOYD, 1690–91—WILLIAM MARKHAM, 1691–93—BENJAMIN FLETCHER, 1693–95—WILLIAM MARKHAM, 1693–99.

BUT the indications, constantly thickening, that a struggle was likely soon to be precipitated before the crown for possession of the disputed territory, decided Penn early in the summer to quit the colony and return to England to defend his imperiled interests. There is no doubt that he took this step with unfeigned regret, as he was contented and happy in his new country, and was most usefully employed. There were, however, other inducements which were leading him back to England. The hand of persecution was at this time laid heavily upon the Quakers. Over 1,400 of these pious and inoffensive people were now, and some of them had been for years, languishing in the prisons of England, for no other offense than their manner of worship. By his friendship with James, and his acquaintance with the King, he might do something to soften the lot of these unfortunate victims of bigotry.

He accordingly empowered the Provincial Council, of which Thomas Lloyd was President, to act in his stead, commissioned Nicholas Moore, William Welch, William Wood, Robert Turner and John Eckley, Provincial

Judges for two years; appointed Thomas Lloyd, James Claypole and Robert Turner to sign land patents and warrants, and William Clark as Justice of the Peace for all the counties; and on the 6th of June, 1684, sailed for Europe. His feelings on leaving his colony are exhibited by a farewell address which he issued from on board the vessel to his people, of which the following are brief extracts: "My love and my life is to you, and with you, and no water can quench it, nor distance wear it out, nor bring it to an end. I have been with you, cared over you and served over you with unfeigned love, and you are beloved of me, and near to me, beyond utterance. I bless you in the name and power of the Lord, and may God bless you with His righteousness, peace and plenty all the land over. * * * Oh! now are you come to a quiet land; provoke not the Lord to trouble it. And now liberty and authority are with you, and in your hands. Let the government be upon His shoulders, in all your spirits, that you may rule for Him, under whom the princes of this world will, one day, esteem their honor to govern and serve in their places * * * And thou, Philadelphia, the virgin settlement of this province, named before thou wert born, what love, what care, what service and what travail has there been, to bring thee forth, and preserve thee from such as would abuse and defile thee! * * * So, dear friends, my love again salutes you all, wishing that grace, mercy and peace, with all temporal blessings, may abound richly among you—so says. so prays, your friend and lover in the truth. WILLIAM PENN."

On the 6th of December of this same year, 1684, Charles II died, and was succeeded by his brother James, Duke of York, under the title of James II. James was a professed Catholic, and the people were greatly excited all over the kingdom lest the reign of Bloody Mary should be repeated, and that the Catholic should become the established religion. He had less ability than his brother, the deceased King, but great discipline and industry. Penn enjoyed the friendship and intimacy of the new King, and he determined to use his advantage for the relief of his suffering countrymen, not only of his sect, the Quakers, but of all, and especially for the furtherance of universal liberty. But there is no doubt that he at this time meditated a speedy return to his province, for he writes: "Keep up the peoples' hearts and loves; I hope to be with them next fall, if the Lord prevent not. I long to be with you. No temptations prevail to fix me here. The Lord send us a good meeting." By authority of Penn, dated 18th of January, 1685, William Markham, Penn's cousin, was commissioned Secretary of the province, and the proprietor's Secretary.

That he might be fixed near to court for the furtherance of his private as well as public business, he secured lodgings for himself and family, in 1685, at Kensington, near London, and cultivated a daily intimacy with the King, who, no doubt, found in the strong native sense of his Quaker friend, a valued adviser upon many questions of difficulty. His first and chief care was the settlement of his disagreement with Lord Baltimore touching the boundaries of their provinces. This was settled in November, 1685, by a compromise, by which the land lying between the Delaware and Chesepeake Bays was divided into two equal parts—that upon the Delaware was adjudged to Penn, and that upon the Chesapeake to Lord Baltimore. This settled the matter in theory; but when the attempt was made to run the lines according to the language of the Royal Act, it was found that the royal secretaries did not understand the geography of the country, and that the line which their language described was an impossible one. Consequently the boundary remained undetermined till 1732. The account of its location will be given in its proper place.

Having secured this important decision to his satisfaction, Penn applied himself with renewed zeal, not only to secure the release of his people, who were languishing in prisons, but to procure for all Englishmen, everywhere, enlarged liberty and freedom of conscience. His relations with the King favored his designs. The King had said to Penn before he ascended the throne that he was opposed to persecution for religion. On the first day of his reign, he made an address, in which he proclaimed himself opposed to all arbitrary principles in government, and promised protection to the Church of England. Early in the year 1686, in consequence of the King's proclamation for a general pardon, over thirteen hundred Quakers were set at liberty, and in April, 1687, the King issued a declaration for entire liberty of conscience, and suspending the penal laws in matters ecclesiastical. This was a great step in advance, and one that must ever throw a luster over the brief reign of this unfortunate monarch. Penn, though holding no official position, doubtless did as much toward securing the issue of this liberal measure as any Englishman.

Upon the issue of these edicts, the Quakers, at their next annual meeting, presented an address of acknowledgment to the King, which opened in these words: "We cannot but bless and praise the name of Almighty God, who hath the hearts of princes in His hands, that He hath inclined the King to hear the cries of his suffering subjects for conscience' sake, and we rejoice that he hath given us so eminent an occasion to present him our thanks." This address was presented by Penn in a few well-chosen words, and the King replied in the following, though brief, yet most expressive, language: "Gentlemen—I thank you heartily for your address. Some of you know (I am sure you do Mr. Penn), that it was always my principle, that conscience ought not to be forced, and that all men ought to have the liberty of their consciences. And what I have promised in my declaration, I will continue to perform so long as I live. And I hope, before I die, to settle it so that after ages shall have no reason to alter it."

It would have been supposed that such noble sentiments as these from a sovereign would have been hailed with delight by the English people. But they were not. The aristocracy of Britain at this time did not want liberty of conscience. They wanted comformity to the established church, and bitter persecution against all others, as in the reign of Charles, which filled the prisons with Quakers. The warm congratulations to James, and fervent prayers for his welfare, were regarded by them with an evil eye. Bitter reproaches were heaped upon Penn, who was looked upon as the power behind the throne that was moving the King to the enforcing of these principles. He was accused of having been educated at St. Omer's, a Catholic college, a place which he never saw in his life, of having taken orders as a priest in the Catholic Church, of having obtained dispensation to marry, and of being not only a Catholic, but a Jesuit in disguise, all of which were pure fabrications. But in the excited state of the public mind they were believed, and caused him to be regarded with bitter hatred. The King, too, fell rapidly into disfavor, and so completely had the minds of his people become alienated from him, that upon the coming of the Prince of Orange and his wife Mary, in 1688, James was obliged to flee to France for safety, and they were received as the rulers of Britain.

But while the interests of the colony were thus prospering at court, they were not so cloudless in the new country. There was needed the strong hand of Penn to check abuses and guide the course of legislation in proper channels. He had labored to place the government entirely in the hands of the people—an idea, in the abstract, most attractive, and one which, were the entire

population wise and just, would result fortunately; yet, in practice, he found to his sorrow the results most vexatious. The proprietor had not long been gone before troubles arose between the two Houses of the Legislature relative to promulgating the laws as not being in accordance with the requirements of the charter. Nicholas Moore, the Chief Justice, was impeached for irregularities in imposing fines and in other ways abusing his high trust. But though formally arraigned and directed to desist from exercising his functions, he successfully resisted the proceedings, and a final judgment was never obtained. Patrick Robinson, Clerk of the court, for refusing to produce the records in the trial of Moore, was voted a public enemy. These troubles in the government were the occasion of much grief to Penn, who wrote, naming a number of the most influential men in the colony, and beseeching them to unite in an endeavor to check further irregularities, declaring that they disgraced the province, "that their conduct had struck back hundreds, and was £10,000 out of his way, and £100,000 out of the country."

In the latter part of the year 1686, seeing that the whole Council was too unwieldy a body to exercise executive power, Penn determined to contract the number, and accordingly appointed Thomas Lloyd, Nicholas Moore, James Claypole, Robert Turner and John Eckley, any three of whom should constitute a quorum, to be Commissioners of State to act for the proprietor. In place of Moore and Claypole, Arthur Cook and John Simcock were appointed. They were to compel the attendance of the Council; see that the two Houses admit of no parley; to abrogate all laws except the fundamentals; to dismiss the Assembly and call a new one, and finally he solemnly admonishes them, "Be most just, as in the sight of the all-seeing, all-searching God." In a letter to these Commissioners, he says: "Three things occur to me eminently: First, that you be watchful that none abuse the King, etc.; secondly, that you get the custom act revived as being the equalest and least offensive way to support the government; thirdly, that you retrieve the dignity of courts and sessions."

In a letter to James Harrison, his confidential agent at Pennsbury Manor, he unbosoms himself more freely respecting his employment in London than in any of his State papers or more public communications, and from it can be seen how important were his labors with the head of the English nation. "I am engaged in the public business of the nation and Friends, and those in authority would have me see the establishment of the liberty, that I was a small instrument to begin in the land. The Lord has given me great entrance and interest with the King, though not so much as is said; and I confess I should rejoice to see poor old England fixed, the penal laws repealed, that are now suspended, and if it goes well with England, it cannot go ill with Pennsylvania, as unkindly used as I am; and no poor slave in Turkey desires more earnestly, I believe, for deliverance, than I do to be with you." In the summer of 1687, Penn was in company with the King in a progress through the counties of Berkshire, Glocestershire, Worcestershire, Shropshire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Oxfordshire and Hampshire, during which he held several religious meetings with his people, in some of which the King appears to have been present, particularly in Chester.

Since the departure of Penn, Thomas Lloyd had acted as President of the Council, and later of the Commissioners of State. He had been in effect Governor, and held responsible for the success of the government, while possessing only one voice in the disposing of affairs. Tiring of this anomalous position, Lloyd applied to be relieved. It was difficult to find a person of sufficient ability to fill the place; but Penn decided to relieve him, though

showing his entire confidence by notifying him that he intended soon to appoint him absolute Governor. In his place, he indicated Samuel Carpenter, or if he was unwilling to serve, then Thomas Ellis, but not to be President, his will being that each should preside a month in turn, or that the oldest member should be chosen.

Penn foresaw that the executive power, to be efficient, must be lodged in the hands of one man of ability, such as to command the respect of his people. Those whom he most trusted in the colony had been so mixed up in the wrangles of the executive and legislative departments of the government that he deemed it advisable to appoint a person who had not before been in the colony and not a Quaker. He accordingly commissioned John Blackwell, July 27, 1688, to be Lieutenant Governor, who was at this time in New England, and who had the esteem and confidence of Penn. With the commission, the proprietor sent full instructions, chiefly by way of caution, the last one being: "Rule the meek meekly; and those that will not be ruled, rule with authority." Though Lloyd had been relieved of power, he still remained in the Council, probably because neither of the persens designated were willing to serve. Having seen the evils of a many-headed executive, he had recommended the appointment of one person to exercise executive authority. It was in conformity with this advice that Blackwell was appointed. He met the Assembly in March, 1689; but either his conceptions of business were arbitrary and imperious, or the Assembly had become accustomed to great latitude and lax discipline; for the business had not proceeded far before the several branches of the government were at variance. Lloyd refused to give up the great seal, alleging that it had been given him for life. The Governor, arbitrarily and without warrant of law, imprisoned officers of high rank, denied the validity of all laws passed by the Assembly previous to his administration, and set on foot a project for organizing and equipping the militia, under the plea of threatened hostility of France. The Assembly attempted to arrest his proceedings, but he shrewdly evaded their intents by organizing a party among the members, who persistently absented themselves. His reign was short, for in January, 1690, he left the colony and sailed away for England, whereupon the government again devolved upon the Council, Thomas Lloyd, President. Penn had a high estimation of the talents and integrity of Blackwell, and adds, "He is in England and Ireland of great repute for ability, integrity and virtue."

Three forms of administering the executive department of the government had now been tried, by a Council consisting of eighteen members, a commission of five members, and a Lieutenant Governor. Desirous of leaving the government as far as possible in the hands of the people who were the sources of all power, Penn left it to the Council to decide which form should be adopted. The majority decided for a Deputy Governor. This was opposed by the members from the provinces, who preferred a Council, and who, finding themselves outvoted, decided to withdraw, and determined for themselves to govern the lower counties until Penn should come. This obstinacy and falling out between the councilors from the lower counties and those from the province was the beginning of a controversy which eventuated in a separation, and finally in the formation of Delaware as a separate commonwealth. A deputation from the Council was sent to New Castle to induce the seceding members to return, but without success. They had never regarded with favor the removal of the sittings of the Council from New Castle, the first seat of government, to Philadelphia, and they were now determined to set up a government for themselves.

In 1689, the Friends Public School in Philadelphia was first incorporated, confirmed by a patent from Penn in 1701, and another in 1708, and finally, with greatly enlarged powers, from Penn personally, November 29, 1711. The preamble to the charter recites that as "the prosperity and welfare of any people depend, in great measure, upon the good education of youth, and their early introduction in the principles of true religion and virtue, and qualifying them to serve their country and themselves, by breeding them in reading, writing, and learning of languages and useful arts and sciences suitable to their sex, age and degree, which cannot be effected in any manner so well as by erecting public schools," etc. George Keith was employed as the first master of this school. He was a native of Aberdeen, Scotland, a man of learning, and had emigrated to East Jersey some years previous, where he was Surveyor General, and had surveyed and marked the line between East and West New Jersey. He only remained at the head of the school one year, when he was succeeded by his usher, Thomas Makin. This was a school of considerable merit and pretension, where the higher mathematics and the ancient languages were taught, and was the first of this high grade. A school of a primary grade had been established as early as 1683, in Philadelphia, when Enoch Flower taught on the following terms: "To learn to read English, four shillings by the quarter; to write, six shillings by ditto; to read, write and cast accounts, eight shillings by the quarter; boarding a scholar, that is to say, diet, lodging, washing and schooling, £10 for one whole year," from which it will be seen that although learning might be highly prized, its cost in hard cash was not exorbitant.

Penn's favor at court during the reign of James II caused him to be suspected of disloyalty to the government when William and Mary had come to the throne. Accordingly on the 10th of December, 1688, while walking in White Hall, he was summoned before the Lords of the Council, and though nothing was found against him, was compelled to give security for his appearance at the next term, to answer any charge that might be made. At the second sitting of the Council nothing having been found against him, he was cleared in open court. In 1690, he was again brought before the Lords on the charge of having been in correspondence with the late King. He appealed to King William, who, after a hearing of two hours, was disposed to release him, but the Lords decided to hold him until the Trinity term, when he was again discharged. A third time he was arraigned, and this time with eighteen others, charged with adhering to the kingdom's enemies, but was cleared by order of the King's Bench. Being now at liberty, and these vexatious suits apparently at an end, he set about leading a large party of settlers to his cherished Pennsylvania. Proposals were published, and the Government, regarding the enterprise of so much importance, had ordered an armed convoy, when he was again met by another accusation, and now, backed by the false oath of one William Fuller, whom the Parliament subsequently declared a "cheat and an imposter." Seeing that he must prepare again for his defense, he abandoned his voyage to America, after having made expensive preparations, and convinced that his enemies were determined to prevent his attention to public or private affairs, whether in England or America, he withdrew himself during the ensuing two or three years from the public eye.

But though not participating in business, which was calling loudly for his attention, his mind was busy, and several important treatises upon religious and civil matters were produced that had great influence upon the turn of public affairs, which would never have been written but for this forced retirement. In his address to the yearly meeting of Friends in London, he says:

"My enemies are yours. My privacy is not because men have sworn truly, but falsely against me."

His personal grievances in England were the least which he suffered. For lack of guiding influence, bitter dissensions had sprung up in his colony, which threatened the loss of all. Desiring to secure peace, he had commissioned Thomas Lloyd Deputy Governor of the province, and William Markham Deputy Governor of the lower counties. Penn's grief on account of this division is disclosed in a letter to a friend in the province: "I left it to them, to choose either the government of the Council, five Commissioners or a deputy. What could be tenderer? Now I perceive Thomas Lloyd is chosen by the three upper, but not the three lower counties, and sits down with this broken choice. This has grieved and wounded me and mine, I fear to the hazard of all! * * * for else the Governor of New York is like to have all, if he has it not already."

But the troubles of Penn in America were not confined to civil affairs. His religious society was torn with dissension. George Keith, a man of considerable power in argumentation, but of overweaning self-conceit, attacked the Friends for the laxity of their discipline, and drew off some followers. So venomous did he become that on the 20th of April, 1692, a testimony of denial was drawn up against him at a meeting of ministers, wherein he and his conduct were publicly disowned. This was confirmed at the next yearly meeting. He drew off large numbers and set up an independent society, who termed themselves Christian Quakers. Keith appealed from this action of the American Church to the yearly meeting in London, but was so intemperate in speech that the action of the American Church was confirmed. Whereupon he became the bitter enemy of the Quakers, and, uniting with the Church of England, was ordained a Vicar by the Bishop of London. He afterward returned to America where he wrote against his former associates, but was finally fixed in a benefice in Sussex, England. On his death bed, he said, "I wish I had died when I was a Quaker, for then I am sure it would have been well with my soul."

But Keith had not been satisfied with attacking the principles and practices of his church. He mercilessly lampooned the Lieutenant Governor, saying that "He was not fit to be a Governor, and his name would stink," and of the Council, that "He hoped to God he should shortly see their power taken from them." On another occasion, he said of Thomas Lloyd, who was reputed a mild-tempered man, and had befriended Keith, that he was "an impudent man and a pitiful Governor," and asked him "why he did not send him to jail," saying that "his back (Keith's) had long itched for a whipping, and that he would print and expose them all over America, if not over Europe." So abusive had he finally become that the Council was obliged to take notice of his conduct and to warn him to desist.

Penn, as has been shown, was silenced and thrown into retirement in England. It can be readily seen what an excellent opportunity these troubles in America, the separation in the government, and the schism in the church, gave his enemies to attack him. They represented that he had neglected his colony by remaining in England and meddling with matters in which he had no business; that the colony in consequence had fallen into great disorder, and that he should be deprived of his proprietary rights. These complaints had so much weight with William and Mary, that, on the 21st of October, 1692, they commissioned Benjamin Fletcher, Governor of New York, to take the province and territories under his government. There was another motive operating at this time, more potent than those mentioned above, to induce the

King and Queen to put the government of Pennsylvania under the Governor of New York. The French and Indians from the north were threatening the English. Already the expense for defense had become burdensome to New York. It was believed that to ask aid for the common defense from Penn, with his peace principles, would be fruitless, but that through the influence of Gov. Fletcher, as executive, an appropriation might be secured.

Upon receiving his commission, Gov. Fletcher sent a note, dated April 19, 1693, to Deputy Gov. Lloyd, informing him of the grant of the royal commission and of his intention to visit the colony and assume authority on the 29th inst. He accordingly came with great pomp and splendor, attended by a numerous retinue, and soon after his arrival, submission to him having been accorded without question, summoned the Assembly. Some differences having arisen between the Governor and the Assembly about the manner of calling and electing the Representatives, certain members united in an address to the Governor, claiming that the constitution and laws were still in full force and must be administered until altered or repealed; that Pennsylvania had just as good a right to be governed according to the usages of Pennsylvania as New York had to be governed according to the usages of that province. The Legislature being finally organized, Gov. Fletcher presented a letter from the Queen, setting forth that the expense for the preservation and defense of Albany against the French was intolerable to the inhabitants there, and that as this was a frontier to other colonies, it was thought but just that they should help bear the burden. The Legislature, in firm but respectful terms, maintained that the constitution and laws enacted under them were in full force, and when he, having flatly denied this, attempted to intimidate them by the threat of annexing Pennsylvania to New York, they mildly but firmly requested that if the Governor had objections to the bill which they had passed and would communicate them, they would try to remove them. The business was now amicably adjusted, and he in compliance with their wish dissolved the Assembly, and after appointing William Markham Lieutenant Governor, departed to his government in New York, doubtless well satisfied that a Quaker, though usually mild mannered, is not easily frightened or coerced.

Gov. Fletcher met the Assembly again in March, 1694, and during this session, having apparently failed in his previous endeavors to induce the Assembly to vote money for the common defense, sent a communication setting forth the dangers to be apprehended from the French and Indians, and concluding in these words: "That he considered their principles; that they could not carry arms nor levy money to make war, though for their own defense, yet he hoped that they would not refuse to feed the hungry and clothe the naked; that was to supply the Indian nations with such necessaries as may influence their continued friendship to their provinces." But notwithstanding the adroit sugar-coating of the pill, it was not acceptable and no money was voted. This and a brief session in September closed the Governorship of Pennsylvania by Fletcher. It would appear from a letter written by Penn, after hearing of the neglect of the Legislature to vote money for the purpose indicated, that he took an entirely different view of the subject from that which was anticipated; for he blamed the colony for refusing to send money to New York for what he calls the common defense.

Through the kind offices of Lords Rochester, Ranelagh, Sidney and Somers, the Duke of Buckingham and Sir John Trenchard, the king was asked to hear the case of William Penn, against whom no charge was proven, and who would two years before have gone to his colony had he not supposed that he would have been thought to go in defiance of the government. King William

answered that William Penn was his old acquaintance as well as theirs, that he might follow his business as freely as ever, and that he had nothing to say to him. Penn was accordingly reinstated in his government by letters patent dated on the 20th of August, 1694, whereupon he commissioned William Markham Lieutenant Governor.

When Markham called the Assembly, he disregarded the provisions of the charter, assuming that the removal of Penn had annulled the grant. The Assembly made no objection to this action, as there were provisions in the old charter that they desired to have changed. Accordingly, when the appropriation bill was considered, a new constitution was attached to it and passed. This was approved by Markham and became the organic law, the third constitution adopted under the charter of King Charles. By the provisions of this instrument, the Council was composed of twelve members, and the Assembly of twenty-four. During the war between France and England, the ocean swarmed with the privateers of the former. When peace was declared, many of these crafts, which had richly profited by privateering, were disposed to continue their irregular practices, which was now piracy. Judging that the peace principles of the Quakers would shield them from forcible seizure, they were accustomed to run into the Delaware for safe harbor. Complaints coming of the depredations of these parties, a proclamation was issued calling on magistrates and citizens to unite in breaking up practices so damaging to the good name of the colony. It was charged in England that evil-disposed persons in the province were privy to these practices, if not parties to it, and that the failure of the Government to break it up was a proof of its inefficiency, and of a radical defect of the principles on which it was based. Penn was much exercised by these charges, and in his letters to the Lieutenant Governor and to his friends in the Assembly, urged ceaseless vigilance to effect reform.

CHAPTER VIII.

WILLIAM PENN, 1699-1701—ANDREW HAMILTON, 1701-3—EDWARD SHIPPEN 1703-4—JOHN EVANS, 1704-9—CHARLES GOOKIN, 1709-17.

BEING free from harassing persecutions, and in favor at court, Penn determined to remove with his family to Pennsylvania, and now with the expectation of living and dying here. Accordingly, in July, 1699, he set sail, and, on account of adverse winds, was three months tossed about upon the ocean. Just before his arrival in his colony, the yellow fever raged there with great virulence, having been brought thither from the West Indies, but had been checked by the biting frosts of autumn, and had now disappeared. An observant traveler, who witnessed the effects of this scourge, writes thus of it in his journal: "Great was the majesty and hand of the Lord. Great was the fear that fell upon all flesh. I saw no lofty nor airy countenance, nor heard any vain jesting to move men to laughter, nor witty repartee to raise mirth, nor extravagant feasting to excite the lusts and desires of the flesh above measure; but every face gathered paleness, and many hearts were humbled, and countenances fallen and sunk, as such that waited every moment to be summoned to the bar and numbered to the grave."

Great joy was everywhere manifested throughout the province at the arriv-

al of the proprietor and his family, fondly believing that he had now come to stay. He met the Assembly soon after landing, but, it being an inclement season, he only detained them long enough to pass two measures aimed against piracy and illicit trade, exaggerated reports of which, having been spread broadcast through the kingdom, had caused him great uneasiness and vexation. At the first monthly meeting of Friends in 1700, he laid before them his concern, which was for the welfare of Indians and Negroes, and steps were taken to instruct them and provide stated meetings for them where they could hear the Word. It is more than probable that he had fears from the first that his enemies in England would interfere in his affairs to such a degree as to require his early return, though he had declared to his friends there that he never expected to meet them again. His greatest solicitude, consequently, was to give a charter to his colony, and also one to his city, the very best that human ingenuity could devise. An experience of now nearly twenty years would be likely to develop the weaknesses and impracticable provisions of the first constitutions, so that a frame now drawn with all the light of the past, and by the aid and suggestion of the men who had been employed in administering it, would be likely to be enduring, and though he might be called hence, or be removed by death, their work would live on from generation to generation and age to age, and exert a benign and preserving influence while the State should exist.

In February, 1701, Penn met the most renowned and powerful of the Indian chieftains, reaching out to the Potomac, the Susquehanna and to the Onondagoes of the Five Nations, some forty in number, at Philadelphia, where he renewed with them pledges of peace and entered into a formal treaty of active friendship, binding them to disclose any hostile intent, confirm sale of lands, be governed by colonial law, all of which was confirmed on the part of the Indians "by five parcels of skins;" and on the part of Penn by "several English goods and merchandises."

Several sessions of the Legislature were held in which great harmony prevailed, and much attention was giving to revising and recomposing the constitution. But in the midst of their labors for the improvement of the organic law, intelligence was brought to Penn that a bill had been introduced in the House of Lords for reducing all the proprietary governments in America to regal ones, under pretence of advancing the prerogative of the crown, and the national advantage. Such of the owners of land in Pennsylvania as happened to be in England, remonstrated against action upon the bill until Penn could return and be heard, and wrote to him urging his immediate coming hither. Though much to his disappointment and sorrow, he determined to go immediately thither. He promptly called a session of the Assembly, and in his message to the two Houses said, "I cannot think of such a voyage without great reluctancy of mind, having promised myself the quietness of a wilderness. For my heart is among you, and no disappointment shall ever be able to alter my love to the country, and resolution to return, and settle my family and posterity in it. * * Think therefore (since all men are mortal), of some suitable expedient and provision for your safety as well in your privileges as property. Review again your laws, propose new ones, and you will find me ready to comply with whatsoever may render us happy, by a nearer union of our interests." The Assembly returned a suitable response, and then proceeded to draw up twenty-one articles. The first related to the appointment of a Lieutenant Governor. Penn proposed that the Assembly should choose one. But this they declined, preferring that he should appoint one. Little trouble was experienced in settling everything broached, except the

union of the province and lower counties. Penn used his best endeavors to reconcile them to the union, but without avail. The new constitution was adopted on the 28th of October, 1701. The instrument provided for the union, but in a supplementary article, evidently granted with great reluctance, it was provided that the province and the territories might be separated at any time within three years. As his last act before leaving, he presented the city of Philadelphia, now grown to be a considerable place, and always an object of his affectionate regard, with a charter of privileges. As his Deputy, he appointed Andrew Hamilton, one of the proprietors of East New Jersey, and sometime Governor of both East and West Jersey, and for Secretary of the province and Clerk of the Council, he selected James Logan, a man of singular urbanity and strength of mind, and withal a scholar.

Penn set sail for Europe on the 1st of November, 1701. Soon after his arrival, on the 18th of January, 1702, King William died, and Anne of Denmark succeeded him. He now found himself in favor at court, and that he might be convenient to the royal residence, he again took lodgings at Kensington. The bill which had been pending before Parliament, that had given him so much uneasiness, was at the succeeding session dropped entirely, and was never again called up. During his leisure hours, he now busied himself in writing "several useful and excellent treatises on divers subjects."

Gov. Hamilton's administration continued only till December, 1702, when he died. He was earnest in his endeavors to induce the territories to unite with the province, they having as yet not accepted the new charter, alleging that they had three years in which to make their decision, but without success. He also organized a military force, of which George Lowther was commander, for the safety of the colony.

The executive authority now devolved upon the Council, of which Edward Shippen was President. Conflict of authority, and contention over the due interpretation of some provisions of the new charter, prevented the accomplishment of much, by way of legislation, in the Assembly which convened in 1703; though in this body it was finally determined that the lower counties should thereafter act separately in a legislative capacity. This separation proved final, the two bodies never again meeting in common.

Though the bill to govern the American Colonies by regal authority failed, yet the clamor of those opposed to the proprietary Governors was so strong that an act was finally passed requiring the selection of deputies to have the royal assent. Hence, in choosing a successor to Hamilton, he was obliged to consider the Queen's wishes. John Evans, a man of parts, of Welsh extraction, only twenty-six years old, a member of the Queen's household, and not a Quaker, nor even of exemplary morals, was appointed, who arrived in the colony in December, 1703. He was accompanied by William Penn, Jr., who was elected a member of the Council, the number having been increased by authority of the Governor, probably with a view to his election.

The first care of Evans was to unite the province and lower counties, though the final separation had been agreed to. He presented the matter so well that the lower counties, from which the difficulty had always come, were willing to return to a firm union. But now the provincial Assembly, having become impatient of the obstacles thrown in the way of legislation by the delegates from these counties, was unwilling to receive them. They henceforward remained separate in a legislative capacity, though still a part of Pennsylvania, under the claim of Penn, and ruled by the same Governor, and thus they continued until the 20th of September, 1776, when a constitution was adopted, and they were proclaimed a separate State under the name of Delaware.

During two years of the government of Evans, there was ceaseless discord between the Council, headed by the Governor and Secretary Logan on the one side, and the Assembly led by David Lloyd, its Speaker, on the other, and little legislation was effected.

Realizing the defenseless condition of the colony, Evans determined to organize the militia, and accordingly issued his proclamation. "In obedience to her Majesty's royal command, and to the end that the inhabitants of this government may be in a posture of defense and readiness to withstand and repel all acts of hostility, I do hereby strictly command and require all persons residing in this government, whose persuasions will, on any account, permit them to take up arms in their own defense, that forthwith they do provide themselves with a good firelock and ammunition, in order to enlist themselves in the militia, which I am now settling in this government." The Governor evidently issued this proclamation in good faith, and with a pure purpose. The French and Indians had assumed a threatening aspect upon the north, and while the other colonies had assisted New York liberally, Pennsylvania had done little or nothing for the common defense. But his call fell stillborn. The "fire-locks" were not brought out, and none enlisted.

Disappointed at this lack of spirit, and embittered by the factious temper of the Assembly, Evans, who seems not to have had faith in the religious principles of the Quakers, and to have entirely mistook the nature of their Christian zeal, formed a wild scheme to test their steadfastness under the pressure of threatened danger. In conjunction with his gay associates in revel, he agreed to have a false alarm spread of the approach of a hostile force in the river, whereupon he was to raise the alarm in the city. Accordingly, on the day of the fair in Philadelphia, 16th of March, 1706, a messenger came, post haste from New Castle, bringing the startling intelligence that an armed fleet of the enemy was already in the river, and making their way rapidly toward the city. Whereupon Evans acted his part to a nicety. He sent emissaries through the town proclaiming the dread tale, while he mounted his horse, and in an excited manner, and with a drawn sword, rode through the streets, calling upon all good men and true to rush to arms for the defense of their homes, their wives and children, and all they held dear. The ruse was so well played that it had an immense effect. "The suddenness of the surprise," says Proud, "with the noise of precipitation consequent thereon, threw many of the people into very great fright and consternation, insomuch that it is said some threw their plate and most valuable effects down their wells and little houses; that others hid themselves, in the best manner they could, while many retired further up the river, with what they could most readily carry off; so that some of the creeks seemed full of boats and small craft; those of a larger size running as far as Burlington, and some higher up the river; several women are said to have miscarried by the fright and terror into which they were thrown, and much mischief ensued."

The more thoughtful of the people are said to have understood the deceit from the first, and labored to allay the excitement; but the seeming earnestness of the Governor and the zeal of his emissaries so worked upon the more inconsiderate of the population that the consternation and commotion was almost past belief. In an almanac published at Philadelphia for the next year opposite this date was this distich:

"Wise men wonder, good men grieve,
Knaves invent and fools believe."

Though this ruse was played upon all classes alike, yet it was generally believed to have been aimed chiefly at the Quakers, to try the force of their

principles, and see if they would not rush to arms when danger should really appear. But in this the Governor was disappointed. For it is said that only four out of the entire population of this religious creed showed any disposition to falsify their faith. It was the day of their weekly meeting, and regardless of the dismay and consternation which were everywhere manifest about them, they assembled in their accustomed places of worship, and engaged in their devotions as though nothing unusual was transpiring without, manifesting such unshaken faith, as Whittier has exemplified in verse by his Abraham Davenport, on the occasion of the Dark Day:

> Meanwhile in the old State House, dim as ghosts,
> Sat the law-givers of Connecticut,
> Trembling beneath their legislative robes.
> It is the Lord's great day! Let us adjourn,'
> Some said; and then, as with one accord,
> All eyes were turned on Abraham Davenport.
> He rose, slow, cleaving with his steady voice
> The intolerable hush. 'This well may be
> The Day of Judgment which the world awaits;
> But be it so or not, I only know
> My present duty, and my Lord's command
> To occupy till He come. So at the post
> Where He hath set me in His Providence,
> I choose, for one, to meet Him face to face,
> No faithless servant frightened from my task,
> But ready when the Lord of the harvest calls;
> And therefore, with all reverence, I would say,
> Let God do His work, we will see to ours.
> Bring in the candles.' And they brought them in."

In conjunction with the Legislature of the lower counties, Evans was instrumental in having a law passed for the imposition of a tax on the tonnage of the river, and the erection of a fort near the town of New Castle for compelling obedience. This was in direct violation of the fundamental compact, and vexatious to commerce. It was at length forcibly resisted, and its imposition abandoned. His administration was anything but efficient or peaceful, a series of contentions, of charges and counter-charges having been kept up between the leaders of the two factions, Lloyd and Logan, which he was powerless to properly direct or control. "He was relieved in 1709. Possessed of a good degree of learning and refinement, and accustomed to the gay society of the British metropolis, he found in the grave and serious habits of the Friends a type of life and character which he failed to comprehend, and with which he could, consequently, have little sympathy. How widely he mistook the Quaker character is seen in the result of his wild and hair-brained experiment to test their faith. His general tenor of life seems to have been of a piece with this. Watson says: 'The Indians of Connestoga complained of him when there as misbehaving to their women, and that, in 1709, Solomon Cresson, going his rounds at night, entered a tavern to suppress a riotous assembly, and found there John Evans, Esq., the Governor, who fell to beating Cresson.'"

The youth and levity of Gov. Evans induced the proprietor to seek for a successor of a more sober and sedate character. He had thought of proposing his son, but finally settled upon Col. Charles Gookin, who was reputed to be a man of wisdom and prudence, though as was afterward learned, to the sorrow of the colony, he was subject to fits of derangement, which toward the close of his term were exhibited in the most extravagant acts. He had scarcely arrived in the colony before charges were preferred against the late Governor, and he was asked to institute criminal proceedings, which he declined. This

was the occasion of a renewal of contentions between the Governor and his Council and the Assembly, which continued during the greater part of his administration. In the midst of them, Logan, who was at the head of the Council, having demanded a trial of the charges against him, and failed to secure one, sailed for Europe, where he presented the difficulties experienced in administering the government so strongly, that Penn was seriously inclined to sell his interest in the colony. He had already greatly crippled his estate by expenses he had incurred in making costly presents to the natives, and in settling his colony, for which he had received small return. In the year 1707, he had become involved in a suit in chancery with the executors of his former steward, in the course of which he was confined in the Old Baily during this and a part of the following year, when he was obliged to mortgage his colony in the sum of £6,600 to relieve himself. Foreseeing the great consequence it would be to the crown to buy the rights of the proprietors of the several English colonies in America before they would grow too powerful, negotiations had been entered into early in the reign of William and Mary for their purchase, especially the "fine province of Mr. Penn." Borne down by these troubles, and by debts and litigations at home, Penn seriously entertained the proposition to sell in 1712, and offered it for £20,000. The sum of £12,000 was offered on the part of the crown, which was agreed upon, but before the necessary papers were executed, he was stricken down with apoplexy, by which he was incapacitated for transacting any business, and a stay was put to further proceedings until the Queen should order an act of Parliament for consummating the purchase.

It is a mournful spectacle to behold the great mind and the great heart of Penn reduced now in his declining years, by the troubles of government and by debts incurred in the bettering of his colony, to this enfeebled condition. He was at the moment writing to Logan on public affairs, when his hand was suddenly seized by lethargy in the beginning of a sentence, which he never finished. His mind was touched by the disease, which he never recovered, and after lingering for six years, he died on the 30th of May, 1718, in the seventy-fourth year of his age. With great power of intellect, and a religious devotion scarcely matched in all Christendom, he gave himself to the welfare of mankind, by securing civil and religious liberty through the operations of organic law. Though not a lawyer by profession, he drew frames of government and bodies of laws which have been the admiration of succeeding generations, and are destined to exert a benign influence in all future time, and by his discussions with Lord Baltimore and before the Lords in Council, he showed himself familiar with the abstruse principles of law. Though but a private person and of a despised sect, he was received as the friend and confidential advisee of the ruling sovereigns of England, and some of the principles which give luster to British law were engrafted there through the influence of the powerful intellect and benignant heart of Penn. He sought to know no philosophy but that promulgated by Christ and His disciples, and this he had sounded to its depths, and in it were anchored his ideas of public law and private and social living. The untamed savage of the forest bowed in meek and loving simplicity to his mild and resistless sway, and the members of the Society of Friends all over Europe flocked to his City of Brotherly Love. His prayers for the welfare of his people are the beginning and ending of all his public and private correspondence, and who will say that they have not been answered in the blessings which have attended the commonwealth of his founding? And will not the day of its greatness be when the inhabitants throughout all its borders shall return to the peaceful and loving spirit of

Penn? In the midst of a licentious court, and with every prospect of advancement in its sunshine and favor, inheriting a great name and an independent patrimony, he turned aside from this brilliant track to make common lot with a poor sect under the ban of Government; endured stripes and imprisonment and loss of property; banished himself to the wilds of the American continent that he might secure to his people those devotions which seemed to them required by their Maker, and has won for himself a name by the simple deeds of love and humble obedience to Christian mandates which shall never perish. Many have won renown by deeds of blood, but fadeless glory has come to William Penn by charity.

CHAPTER IX.

SIR WILLIAM KEITH, 1717-26—PATRICK GORDON, 1726-36—JAMES LOGAN, 1736-38—GEORGE THOMAS, 1738-47—ANTHONY PALMER, 1747-48—JAMES HAMILTON, 1748-54.

IN 1712, Penn had made a will, by which he devised to his only surviving son, William, by his first marriage, all his estates in England, amounting to some twenty thousand pounds. By his first wife, Gulielma Maria Springett, he had issue of three sons—William, Springett and William, and four daughters—Gulielma, Margaret, Gulielma and Letitia; and by his second wife, Hannah Callowhill, of four sons—John, Thomas, Richard and Dennis. To his wife Hannah, who survived him, and whom he made the sole executrix of his will, he gave, for the equal benefit of herself and her children, all his personal estate in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, after paying all debts, and alloting ten thousand acres of land in the Province to his daughter Letitia, by his first marriage, and each of the three children of his son William,

Doubts having arisen as to the force of the provisions of this will, it was finally determined to institute a suit in chancery for its determination. Before a decision was reached, in March, 1720, William Penn, Jr., died, and while still pending, his son Springett died also. During the long pendency of this litigation for nine years, Hannah Penn, as executrix of the will, assumed the proprietary powers, issued instructions to her Lieutenant Governors, heard complaints and settled difficulties with the skill and the assurance of a veteran diplomatist. In 1727, a decision was reached that, upon the death of William Penn, Jr., and his son Springett, the proprietary rights in Pennsylvania descended to the three surviving sons—John, Thomas and Richard—issue by the second marriage; and that the proprietors bargain to sell his province to the crown for twelve thousand pounds, made in 1712, and on which one thousand pounds had been paid at the confirmation of the sale, was void. Whereupon the three sons became the joint proprietors.

A year before the death of Penn, the lunacy of Gov. Gookin having become troublesome, he was succeeded in the Government by Sir William Keith, a Scotchman who had served as Surveyor of Customs to the English Government, in which capacity he had visited Pennsylvania previously, and knew something of its condition. He was a man of dignified and commanding bearing, endowed with cunning, of an accommdating policy, full of faithful promises, and usually found upon the stronger side. Hence, upon his arrival in the colony, he did not summon the Assembly immediately,

assigning as a reason in his first message that he did not wish to inconvenience the country members by calling them in harvest time. The disposition thus manifested to favor the people, and his advocacy of popular rights on several occasions in opposition to the claims of the proprietor, gave great satisfaction to the popular branch of the Legislature which manifested its appreciation of his conduct by voting him liberal salaries, which had often been withheld from his less accommodating predecessors. By his artful and insinuating policy, he induced the Assembly to pass two acts which had previously met with uncompromising opposition—one to establish a Court of Equity, with himself as Chancellor, the want of which had been seriously felt; and another, for organizing the militia. Though the soil was fruitful and produce was plentiful, yet, for lack of good markets, and on account of the meagerness of the circulating medium, prices were very low, the toil and sweat of the husbandman being little rewarded, and the taxes and payments on land were met with great difficulty. Accordingly, arrangements were made for the appointment of inspectors of provisions, who, from a conscientious discharge of duty, soon caused the Pennsylvania brands of best products to be much sought for, and to command ready sale at highest prices in the West Indies, whither most of the surplus produce was exported. A provision was also made for the issue of a limited amount of paper money, on the establishment of ample securities, which tended to raise the value of the products of the soil and of manufactures, and encourage industry.

By the repeated notices of the Governors in their messages to the Legislature previous to this time, it is evident that Indian hostilities had for sometime been threatened. The Potomac was the dividing line between the Northern and Southern Indians. But the young men on either side, when out in pursuit of game, often crossed the line of the river into the territory of the other, when fierce altercations ensued. This trouble had become so violent in 1719 as to threaten a great Indian war, in which the powerful confederation, known as the Five Nations, would take a hand. To avert this danger, which it was foreseen would inevitably involve the defenseless familes upon the frontier, and perhaps the entire colony, Gov. Keith determined to use his best exertions. He accordingly made a toilsome journey in the spring of 1721 to confer with the Governor of Virginia and endeavor to employ by concert of action such means as would allay further cause of contention. His policy was well devised, and enlisted the favor of the Governor. Soon after his return, he summoned a council of Indian Chieftains to meet him at Conestoga, a point about seventy miles west of Philadelphia. He went in considerable pomp, attended by some seventy or eighty horsemen, gaily caparisoned, and many of them armed, arriving about noon, on the 4th of July, not then a day of more note than other days. He went immediately to Capt. Civility's cabin, where were assembled four deputies of the Five Nations and representatives of other tribes. The Governor said that he had come a long distance from home to see and speak to representatives of the Five Nations, who had never met the Governor of Pennsylvania. They said in reply that they had heard much of the Governor, and would have come sooner to pay him their respects, but that the wild conduct of some of their young men had made them ashamed to show their faces. In the formal meeting in the morning, Ghesaont, chief of the Senecas, spoke for all the Five Nations. He said that they now felt that they were speaking to the same effect that they would were William Penn before them, that they had not forgotten Penn, nor the treaties made with him, and the good advice he gave them; that though they could not write as do the English, yet they could keep

all these transactions fresh in their memories. After laying down a belt of wampum upon the table as if by way of emphasis, he began again, declaring that "all their disorders arose from the use of rum and strong spirits, which took away their sense and memory, that they had no such liquors," and desired that no more be sent among them. Here he produced a bundle of dressed skins, by which he would say, "you see how much in earnest we are upon this matter of furnishing fiery liquors to us." Then he proceeds, declaring that the Five Nations remember all their ancient treaties, and they now desire that the chain of friendship may be made so strong that none of the links may ever be broken. This may have been a hint that they wanted high-piled and valuable presents; for the Quakers had made a reputation of brightening and strengthening the chain of friendship by valuable presents which had reached so far away as the Five Nations. He then produces a bundle of raw skins, and observes "that a chain may contract rust with laying and become weaker; wherefore, he desires it may now be so well cleaned as to remain brighter and stronger than ever it was before." Here he presents another parcel of skins, and continues, "that as in the firmament, all clouds and darkness are removed from the face of the sun, so they desire that all misunderstandings may be fully done away, so that when they, who are now here, shall be dead and gone, their whole people, with their children and posterity, may enjoy the clear sunshine with us forever." Presenting another bundle of skins, he says, "that, looking upon the Governor as if William Penn were present, they desire, that, in case any disorders should hereafter happen between their young people and ours, we would not be too hasty in resenting any such accident, until their Council and ours can have some opportunity to treat amicably upon it, and so to adjust all matters, as that the friendship between us may still be inviolably preserved." Here he produces a small parcel of dressed skins, and concludes by saying "that we may now be together as one people, treating one another's children kindly and affectionately, that they are fully empowered to speak for the Five Nations, and they look upon the Governor as the representative of the Great King of England, and therefore they expect that everything now stipulated will be made absolutely firm and good on both sides." And now he presents a different style of present and pulls out a bundle of bear skins, and proceeds to put in an item of complaint, that "they get too little for their skins and furs, so that they cannot live by hunting; they desire us, therefore, to take compassion on them, and contrive some way to help them in that particular. Then producing a few furs, he speaks only for himself, "to acquaint the Governor, that the Five Nations having heard that the Governor of Virginia wanted to speak with them, he himself, with some of his company intended to proceed to Virginia, but do not know the way how to get safe thither."

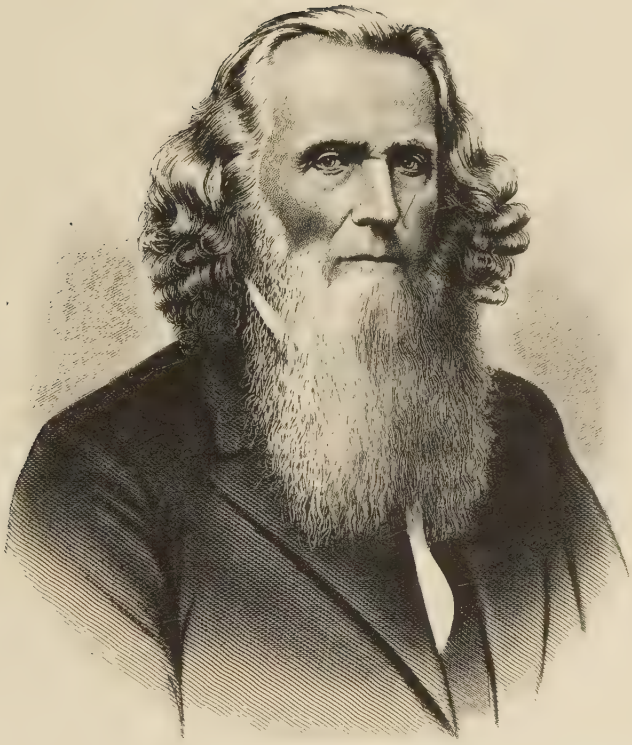
To this formal and adroitly conceived speech of the Seneca chief, Gov. Keith, after having brought in the present of stroud match coats, gunpowder, lead, biscuit, pipes and tobacco, adjourned the council till the following day, when, being assembled at Conestoga, he answered at length the items of the chieftain's speech. His most earnest appeal, however, was made in favor of peace. "I have persuaded all my [Indian] brethren, in these parts, to consider what is for their good, and not to go out any more to war; but your young men [Five Nations] as they come this way, endeavor to force them; and, because they incline to the counsels of peace, and the good advice of their true friends, your people use them ill, and often prevail with them to go out to their own destruction. Thus it was that their town of Conestoga lost their good king not long ago. Their young children are left without parents;

their wives without husbands; the old men, contrary to the course of nature, mourn the death of their young; the people decay and grow weak; we lose our dear friends and are afflicted. Surely you cannot propose to get either riches, or possessions, by going thus out to war; for when you kill a deer, you have the flesh to eat, and the skin to sell; but when you return from war, you bring nothing home, but the scalp of a dead man, who perhaps was husband to a kind wife, and father to tender children, who never wronged you, though, by losing him, you have robbed them of their help and protection, and at the same time got nothing by it. If I were not your friend, I would not take the trouble to say all these things to you." When the Governor had concluded his address, he called the Senaca chieftain (Ghesaont) to him, and presented a gold coronation medal of King George I, which he requested should be taken to the monarch of the Five Nations, "Kannygooah," to be laid up and kept as a token to our children's children, that an entire and lasting friendship is now established forever between the English in this country and the great Five Nations." Upon the return of the Governor, he was met at the upper ferry of the Schuylkill, by the Mayor and Aldermen of the city, with about two hundred horse, and conducted through the streets after the manner of a conqueror of old returning from the scenes of his triumphs.

Gov. Keith gave diligent study to the subject of finance, regulating the currency in such a way that the planter should have it in his power to discharge promptly his indebtedness to the merchant, that their mutual interests might thus be subserved. He even proposed to establish a considerable settlement on his own account in the colony, in order to carry on manufactures, and thus consume the grain, of which there was at this time abundance, and no profitable market abroad.

In the spring of 1722, an Indian was barbarously murdered within the limits of the colony, which gave the Governor great concern. After having cautioned red men so strongly about keeping the peace, he felt that the honor of himself and all his people was compromised by this vile act. He immediately commissioned James Logan and John French to go to the scene of the murder above Conestoga, and inquire into the facts of the case, quickly apprehended the supposed murderers, sent a fast Indian runner (Satcheecho), to acquaint the Five Nations with his sorrow for the act, and of his determination to bring the guilty parties to justice, and himself set out with three of his Council (Hill, Norris and Hamilton), for Albany, where he had been invited by the Indians for a conference with the Governors of all the colonies, and where he met the chiefs of the Five Nations and treated with them upon the subject of the murder, besides making presents to the Indians. It was on this occasion that the grand sachem of this great confederacy made that noble, and generous, and touching response, so different from the spirit of revenge generally attributed to the Indian character. It is a notable example of love that begets love, and of the mild answer that turneth away wrath. He said: "The great king of the Five Nations is sorry for the death of the Indian that was killed, for he was of his own flesh and blood. He believes that the Governor is also sorry; but, now that it is done, there is no help for it, and he desires that Cartlidge [the murderer] may not be put to death, nor that he should be spared for a time, and afterward executed; one life is enough to be lost; there should not two die. The King's heart is good to the Governor and all the English."

Though Gov. Keith, during the early part of his term, pursued a pacific policy, yet the interminable quarrels which had been kept up between the Assembly and Council during previous administrations, at length broke out with



John Dick

more virulence than ever, and he who in the first flush of power had declared "That he should pass no laws, nor transact anything of moment relating to the public affairs without the advice and approbation of the Council," took it upon himself finally to act independently of the Council, and even went so far as to dismiss the able and trusted representative of the proprietary interests, James Logan, President of the Council and Secretary of the Province, from the duties of his high office, and even refused the request of Hannah Penn, the real Governor of the province, to re-instate him. This unwarrantable conduct cost him his dismissal from office in July, 1726. Why he should have assumed so headstrong and unwarrantable a course, who had promised at the first so mild and considerate a policy, it is difficult to understand, unless it be the fact that he found that the Council was blocking, by its obstinacy, wholesome legislation, which he considered of vital importance to the prosperity of the colony, and if, as he alleges, he found that the new constitution only gave the Council advisory and not a voice in executive power.

The administration of Gov. Keith was eminently successful, as he did not hesitate to grapple with important questions of judicature, finance, trade, commerce, and the many vexing relations with the native tribes, and right manfully, and judiciously did he effect their solution. It was at a time when the colony was filling up rapidly, and the laws and regulations which had been found ample for the management of a few hundred families struggling for a foothold in the forest, and when the only traffic was a few skins, were entirely inadequate for securing protection and prosperity to a seething and jostling population intent on trade and commerce, and the conflicting interests which required wise legislation and prudent management. No colony on the American coast made such progress in numbers and improvement as did Pennsylvania during the nine years in which William Keith exercised the Gubernatorial office. Though not himself a Quaker, he had secured the passage of an act of Assembly, and its royal affirmation for allowing the members of the Quaker sect to wear their hats in court, and give testimony under affirmation instead of oath, which in the beginning of the reign of Queen Anne had been withheld from them. After the expiration of his term of office, he was immediately elected a member of the Assembly, and was intent on being elected Speaker, "and had his support out-doors in a cavalcade of eighty mounted horsemen and the resounding of many guns fired;" yet David Lloyd was elected with only three dissenting voices. the out-door business having perhaps been overdone.

Upon the recommendation of Springett Penn, who was now the prospective heir to Pennsylvania, Patrick Gordon was appointed and confirmed Lieutenant Governor in place of Keith, and arrived in the colony and assumed authority in July, 1726. He had served in the army, and in his first address to the Assembly, which he met in August, he said that as he had been a soldier, he knew nothing of the crooked ways of professed politicians, and must rely on a straightforward manner of transacting the duties devolving upon him. George I died in June, 1727, and the Assembly at its meeting in October prepared and forwarded a congratulatory address to his successor, George II. By the decision of the Court of Chancery in 1727, Hannah Penn's authority over the colony was at an end, the proprietary interests having descended to John, Richard and Thomas Penn, the only surviving sons of William Penn, Sr. This period, from the death of Penn in 1718 to 1727, one of the most prosperous in the history of the colony, was familiarly known as the "Reign of Hannah and the Boys."

Gov. Gordon found the Indian troubles claiming a considerable part of his

attention. In 1728, worthless bands, who had strayed away from their proper tribes, incited by strong drink, had become implicated in disgraceful broils, in which several were killed and wounded. The guilty parties were apprehended, but it was found difficult to punish Indian offenders without incurring the wrath of their relatives. Treaties were frequently renewed, on which occasions the chiefs expected that the chain of friendship would be polished "with English blankets, broadcloths and metals." The Indians found that this "brightening the chain" was a profitable business, which some have been uncharitable enough to believe was the moving cause of many of the Indian difficulties.

As early as 1732, the French, who were claiming all the territory drained by the Mississippi and its tributaries, on the ground of priority of discovery of its mouth and exploration of its channel, commenced erecting trading posts in Pennsylvania, along the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers, and invited the Indians living on these streams to a council for concluding treaties with them at Montreal, Canada. To neutralize the influence of the French, these Indians were summoned to meet in council at Philadelphia, to renew treaties of friendship, and they were invited to remove farther east. But this they were unwilling to do. A treaty was also concluded with the Six Nations, in which they pledged lasting friendship for the English.

Hannah Penn died in 1733, when the Assembly, supposing that the proprietary power was still in her hands, refused to recognize the power of Gov. Gordon. But the three sons, to whom the proprietary possessions had descended, in 1727, upon the decision of the Chancery case, joined in issuing a new commission to Gordon. In approving this commission the King directed a clause to be inserted, expressly reserving to himself the government of the lower counties. This act of the King was the beginning of those series of encroachments which finally culminated in the independence of the States of America. The Judiciary act of 1727 was annulled, and this was followed by an attempt to pass an act requiring the laws of all the colonies to be submitted to the Crown for approval before they should become valid, and that a copy of all laws previously enacted should be submitted for approval or veto. The agent of the Assembly, Mr. Paris, with the agents of other colonies, made so vigorous a defense, that action was for the time stayed.

In 1732, Thomas Penn, the youngest son, and two years later, John Penn, the eldest, and the only American born, arrived in the Province, and were received with every mark of respect and satisfaction. Soon after the arrival of the latter, news was brought that Lord Baltimore had made application to have the Provinces transferred to his colony. A vigorous protest was made against this by Quakers in England, headed by Richard Penn; but lest this protest might prove ineffectual, John Penn very soon went to England to defend the proprietary rights at court, and never again returned, he having died a bachelor in 1746. In August, 1736, Gov. Gordon died, deeply lamented, as an honest, upright and straightforward executive, a character which he expressed the hope he would be able to maintain when he assumed authority. His term had been one of prosperity, and the colony had grown rapidly in numbers, trade, commerce and manufactures, ship-building especially having assumed extensive proportions.

James Logan was President of the Council and in effect Governor, during the two years which elapsed between the death of Gordon and the arrival of his successor. The Legislature met regularly, but no laws were passed for lack of an executive. It was during this period that serious trouble broke out near the Maryland border, west of the Susquehanna, then Lancaster, now

York County. A number of settlers, in order to evade the payment of taxes, had secured titles to their lands from Maryland, and afterward sought to be reinstated in their rights under Pennsylvania authority, and plead protection from the latter. The Sheriff of the adjoining Maryland County, with 300 followers, advanced to drive these settlers from their homes. On hearing of this movement, Samuel Smith, Sheriff of Lancaster County, with a hastily summoned posse, advanced to protect the citizens in their rights. Without a conflict, an agreement was entered into by both parties to retire. Soon afterward, however, a band of fifty Marylanders again entered the State with the design of driving out the settlers and each securing for himself 200 acres of land. They were led by one Cressap. The settlers made resistance, and in an encounter, one of them by the name of Knowles was killed. The Sheriff of Lancaster again advanced with a posse, and in a skirmish which ensued one of the invaders was killed, and the leader Cressap was wounded and taken prisoner. The Governor of Maryland sent a commission to Philadelphia to demand the release of the prisoner. Not succeeding in this, he seized four of the settlers and incarcerated them in the jail at Baltimore. Still determined to effect their purpose, a party of Marylanders, under the leadership of one Higginbotham, advanced into Pennsylvania and began a warfare upon the settlers. Again the Sheriff of Lancaster appeared upon the scene, and drove out the invaders. So stubbornly were these invasions pushed and resented that the season passed without planting or securing the usual crops. Finally a party of sixteen Marylanders, led by Richard Lowden, broke into the Lancaster jail and liberated the Maryland prisoners. Learning of these disturbances, the King in Council issued an order restraining both parties from further acts of violence, and afterward adopted a plan of settlement of the vexed boundary question.

Though not legally Governor, Logan managed the affairs of the colony with great prudence and judgment, as he had done and continued to do for a period of nearly a half century. He was a scholar well versed in the ancient languages and the sciences, and published several learned works in the Latin tongue. His *Experimenta Meletemata de plantarum generatione*, written in Latin, was published at Leyden in 1739, and afterward, in 1747, republished in London, with an English version on the opposite page by Dr. J. Fothergill. Another work of his in Latin was also published at Leyden, entitled, *Canonum pro inveniendis refractionum, tum simplicium tum in lentibus duplicum focis, demonstrationis geometricae.* After retiring from public business, he lived at his country-seat at Stenton, near Germantown, where he spent his time among his books and in correspondence with the literati of Europe. In his old age he made an English translation of Cicero's *De Senectute*, which was printed at Philadelphia in 1744 with a preface by Benjamin Franklin, then rising into notice. Logan was a Quaker, of Scotch descent, though born in Ireland, and came to America in the ship with William Penn, in his second visit in 1699, when about twenty-five years old, and died at seventy-seven. He had held the offices of Chief Commissioner of property, Agent for the purchase and sale of lands, Receiver General, Member of Council, President of Council and Chief Justice. He was the Confidential Agent of Penn, having charge of all his vast estates, making sales of lands, executing conveyances, and making collections. Amidst all the great cares of business so pressing as to make him exclaim, "I know not what any of the comforts of life are," he found time to devote to the delights of learning, and collected a large library of standard works, which he bequeathed, at his death, to the people of Pennsylvania, and is known as the Loganian Library.

George Thomas, a planter from the West Indies, was appointed Governor in 1737, but did not arrive in the colony till the following year. His first care was to settle the disorders in the Cumberland Valley, and it was finally agreed that settlers from either colony should owe allegiance to the Governor of that colony wherever settled, until the division line which had been provided for was surveyed and marked. War was declared on the 23d of October, 1739, between Great Britain and Spain. Seeing that his colony was liable to be encroached upon by the enemies of his government, he endeavored to organize the militia, but the majority of the Assembly was of the peace element, and it could not be induced to vote money. Finally he was ordered by the home government to call for volunteers, and eight companies were quickly formed, and sent down for the coast defense. Many of these proved to be servants for whom pay was demanded and finally obtained. In 1740, the great evangelist, Whitefield, visited the colony, and created a deep religious interest among all denominations. In his first intercourse with the Assembly, Gov. Thomas endeavored to coerce it to his views. But a more stubborn set of men never met in a deliberative body than were gathered in this Assembly at this time. Finding that he could not compel action to his mind, he yielded and consulted their views and decisions. The Assembly, not to be outdone in magnanimity, voted him £1,500 arrearages of salary, which had been withheld because he would not approve their legislation, asserting that public acts should take precedence of appropriations for their own pay. In March, 1744, war was declared between Great Britain and France. Volunteers were called for, and 10,000 men were rapidly enlisted and armed at their own expense. Franklin, recognizing the defenseless condition of the colony, issued a pamphlet entitled *Plain Truth*, in which he cogently urged the necessity of organized preparation for defense. Franklin was elected Colonel of one of the regiments, but resigned in favor of Alderman Lawrence. On the 5th of May, 1747, the Governor communicated intelligence of the death of John Penn, the eldest of the proprietors, to the Assembly, and his own intention to retire from the duties of his office on account of declining health.

Anthony Palmer was President of the Council at the time of the withdrawal of Gordon, and became the Acting Governor. The peace party in the Assembly held that it was the duty of the crown of England to protect the colony, and that for the colony to call out volunteers and become responsible for their payment was burdening the people with an expense which did not belong to them, and which the crown was willing to assume. The French were now deeply intent on securing firm possession of the Mississippi Valley and the entire basin, even to the summits of the Alleghanies in Pennsylvania, and were busy establishing trading posts along the Ohio and Allegheny Rivers. They employed the most artful means to win the simple natives to their interests, giving showy presents and laboring to convince them of their great value. Pennsylvania had won a reputation among the Indians of making presents of substantial worth. Not knowing the difference between steel and iron, the French distributed immense numbers of worthless iron hatchets, which the natives supposed were the equal of the best English steel axes. The Indians, however, soon came to distinguish between the good and the valueless. Understanding the Pennsylvania methods of securing peace and friendship, the the natives became very artful in drawing out "well piled up" presents. The government at this time was alive to the dangers which threatened from the insinuating methods of the French. A trusty messenger, Conrad Weiser, was sent among the Indians in the western part of the province to observe the plans of the French, ascertain the temper of the natives, and especially to

magnify the power of the English, and the disposition of Pennsylvania to give great presents. This latter policy had the desired effect, and worthless and wandering bands, which had no right to speak for the tribe, came teeming in, desirous of scouring the chain of friendship, intimating that the French were making great offers, in order to induce the government to large liberality, until this "brightening the chain," became an intolerable nuisance. At a single council held at Albany, in 1747, Pennsylvania distributed goods to the value of £1,000, and of such a character as should be most serviceable to the recipients, not worthless gew-gaws, but such as would contribute to their lasting comfort and well being, a protection to the person against the bitter frosts of winter, and sustenance that should minister to the steady wants of the body and alleviation of pain in time of sickness. The treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, which was concluded on the 1st of October, 1748, secured peace between Great Britain and France, and should have put an end to all hostile encounters between their representatives on the American continent. Palmer remained at the head of the government for a little more than two years. He was a retired merchant from the West Indies, a man of wealth, and had come into the colony in 1708. He lived in a style suited to a gentleman, kept a coach and a pleasure barge.

On the 23d of November, 1748, James Hamilton arrived in the colony from England, bearing the commission of Lieutenant Governor. He was born in America, son of Andrew Hamilton, who had for many years been Speaker of the Assembly. The Indians west of the Susquehanna had complained that settlers had come upon their best lands, and were acquiring titles to them, whereas the proprietors had never purchased these lands of them, and had no claim to them. The first care of Hamilton was to settle these disputes, and allay the rising excitement of the natives. Richard Peters, Secretary of the colony, a man of great prudence and ability, was sent in company with the Indian interpreter, Conrad Weiser, to remove the intruders. It was firmly and fearlessly done, the settlers giving up their tracts and the cabins which they had built, and accepting lands on the east side of the river. The hardship was in many cases great, but when they were in actual need, the Secretary gave money and placed them upon lands of his own, having secured a tract of 2,000,000 of acres.

But these troubles were of small consequence compared with those that were threatening from the West. Though the treaty of Aix was supposed to have settled all difficulties between the two courts, the French were determined to occupy the whole territory drained by the Mississippi, which they claimed by priority of discovery by La Salle. The British Ambassador at Paris entered complaints before the French Court that encroachments were being made by the French upon English soil in America, which were politely heard, and promises made of restraining the French in Canada from encroaching upon English territory. Formal orders were sent out from the home government to this effect; but at the same time secret intimations were conveyed to them that their conduct in endeavoring to secure and hold the territory in dispute was not displeasing to the government, and that disobedience of these orders would not incur its displeasure. The French deemed it necessary, in order to establish a legal claim to the country, to take formal possession of it. Accordingly, the Marquis de la Galissoniere, who was at this time Governor General of Canada, dispatched Capt. Bienville de Céleron with a party of 215 French and fifty-five Indians, to publicly proclaim possession, and bury at prominent points plates of lead bearing inscriptions declaring occupation in the name of the French King. Céleron started on the 15th of June, 1749, from La Chine,

following the southern shores of Lakes Ontario and Erie, until he reached a point opposite Lake Chautauqua, where the boats were drawn up and were taken bodily over the dividing ridge, a distance of ten miles, with all the *impedimenta* of the expedition, the pioneers having first opened a road. Following on down the lake and the Conewango Creek, they arrived at Warren near the confluence of the creek with the Allegheny River. Here the first plate was buried. These plates were eleven inches long, seven and a half wide, and one-eighth of an inch thick. The inscription was in French, and in the following terms, as fairly translated into English: "In the year 1749, of the reign of Louis XIV, King of France, We Céleron, commander of a detachment sent by Monsieur the Marquis de la Galissonière, Governor General of New France, to re-establish tranquillity in some Indian villages of these cantons, have buried this plate of lead at the confluence of the Ohio with the Chautauqua, this 29th day of July, near the River Ohio, otherwise Belle Rivière, as a monument of the renewal of the possession we have taken of the said River Ohio, and of all those which empty into it, and of all the lands on both sides as far as the sources of the said river, as enjoyed or ought to have been enjoyed by the King of France preceding, and as they have there maintained themselves by arms and by treaties, especially those of Ryswick, Utrecht and Aix-la-Chapelle." The burying of this plate was attended with much form and ceremony. All the men and officers of the expedition were drawn up in battle array, when the Commander, Céleron, proclaimed in a loud voice, "Vive le Roi," and declared that possession of the country was now taken in the name of the King. A plate on which was inscribed the arms of France was affixed to the nearest tree.

The same formality was observed in planting each of the other plates, the second at the rock known as the "Indian God," on which are ancient and unknown inscriptions, a few miles below Franklin, a third at the mouth of Wheeling Creek; a fourth at the mouth of the Muskingum; a fifth at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, and the sixth and last at the mouth of the Great Miami. Toilsomely ascending the Miami to its head-waters, the party burned their canoes, and obtained ponies for the march across the portage to the head-waters of the Maumee, down which and by Lakes Erie and Ontario they returned to Fort Frontenac, arriving on the 6th of November. It appears that the Indians through whose territory they passed viewed this planting of plates with great suspicion. By some means they got possession of one of them, generally supposed to have been stolen from the party at the very commencement of their journey from the mouth of the Chautauqua Creek.

Mr. O. H. Marshall, in an excellent monograph upon this expedition, made up from the original manuscript journal of Céleron and the diary of Father Bonnecamps, found in the Department de la Marine, in Paris, gives the following account of this stolen plate:

"The first of the leaden plates was brought to the attention of the public by Gov. George Clinton to the Lords of Trade in London, dated New York, December 19, 1750, in which he states that he would send to their Lordships in two or three weeks a plate of lead full of writing, which some of the upper nations of Indians stole from Jean Coeur, the French interpreter at Niagara, on his way to the River Ohio, which river, and all the lands thereabouts, the French claim, as will appear by said writing. He further states 'that the lead plate gave the Indians so much uneasiness that they immediately dispatched some of the Cayuga chiefs to him with it, saying that their only reliance was on him, and earnestly begged he would communicate the contents to them, which he had done, much to their satisfaction and the interests of the English.'

The Governor concludes by saying that 'the contents of the plate may be of great importance in clearing up the encroachments which the French have made on the British Empire in America.' The plate was delivered to Colonel, afterward Sir William Johnson, on the 4th of December, 1750, at his residence on the Mohawk, by a Cayuga sachem, who accompanied it by the following speech:

"'Brother Corlear and War-ragh-i-ya-ghey! I am sent here by the Five Nations with a piece of writing which the Senecas, our brethren, got by some artifice from Jean Coeur, earnestly beseeching you will let us know what it means, and as we put all our confidence in you, we hope you will explain it ingeniously to us.'

"Col. Johnson replied to the sachem, and through him to the Five Nations, returning a belt of wampum, and explaining the inscription on the plate. He told them that 'it was a matter of the greatest consequence, involving the possession of their lands and hunting grounds, and that Jean Coeur and the French ought immediately to be expelled from the Ohio and Niagara.' In reply, the sachem said that 'he had heard with great attention and surprise the substance of the "devilish writing" he had brought, and that Col. Johnson's remarks were fully approved.' He promised that belts from each of the Five Nations should be sent from the Seneca's castle to the Indians at the Ohio, to warn and strengthen them against the French encroachments in that direction." On the 29th of January, 1751, Clinton sent a copy of this inscription to Gov. Hamilton, of Pennsylvania.

The French followed up this formal act of possession by laying out a line of military posts, on substantially the same line as that pursued by the Céleron expedition; but instead of crossing over to Lake Chautauqua, they kept on down to Presque Isle (now Erie), where was a good harbor, where a fort was established, and thence up to Le Boeuf (now Waterford), where another post was placed; thence down the Venango River (French Creek) to its mouth at Franklin, establishing Fort Venango there; thence by the Allegheny to Pittsburgh, where Fort Du Quesne was seated, and so on down the Ohio.

To counteract this activity of the French, the Ohio Company was chartered, and a half million of acres was granted by the crown, to be selected mainly on the south side of the Ohio, between the Monongalia and Kanawha Rivers, and the condition made that settlements (100 families within seven years), protected by a fort, should he made. The company consisted of a number of Virginia and Maryland gentlemen, of whom Lawrence Washington was one, and Thomas Hanbury, of London.

In 1752, a treaty was entered into with the Indians, securing the right of occupancy, and twelve families, headed by Capt. Gist, established themselves upon the Monongalia, and subsequently commenced the erection of a fort, where the city of Pittsburgh now is. Apprised of this intrusion into the very heart of the territory which they were claiming, the French built a fort at Le Boeuf, and strengthened the post at Franklin.

These proceedings having been promptly reported to Lieut. Gov. Dinwiddie, of Virginia, where the greater number of the stockholders of the Ohio Company resided, he determined to send an official communication—protesting against the forcible interference with their chartered rights, granted by the crown of Britain, and pointing to the late treaties of peace entered into between the English and French, whereby it was agreed that each should respect the colonial possessions of the other—to the Commandant of the French, who had his headquarters at Fort Le Boeuf, fifteen miles inland from the present site of the city of Erie.

But who should be the messenger to execute this delicate and responsible duty? It was winter, and the distance to be traversed was some 500 miles, through an unbroken wilderness, cut by rugged mountain chains and deep and rapid streams. It was proposed to several, who declined, and was finally accepted by George Washington, a youth barely twenty-one years old. On the last day of November, 1753, he bade adieu to civilization, and pushing on through the forest to the settlements on the Monongalia, where he was joined by Capt. Gist, followed up the Allegheny to Fort Venango (now Franklin); thence up the Venango to its head-waters at Fort Le Boeuf, where he held formal conference with the French Commandant, St. Pierre. The French officer had been ordered to hold this territory on the score of the discovery of the Mississippi by La Salle, and he had no discretion but to execute his orders, and referred Washington to his superior, the Governor General of Canada. Making careful notes of the location and strength of the post and those encountered on the way, the young embassador returned, being twice fired at on his journey by hostile Indians, and near losing his life by being thrown into the freezing waters of the Allegheny. Upon his arrival, he made a full report of the embassage, which was widely published in this country and in England, and was doubtless the basis upon which action was predicted that eventuated in a long and sanguinary war, which finally resulted in the expulsion of the power of France from this continent.

Satisfied that the French were determined to hold the territory upon the Ohio by force of arms, a body of 150 men, of which Washington was second in command, was sent to the support of the settlers. But the French, having the Allegheny River at flood-tide on which to move, and Washington, without means of transportation, having a rugged and mountainous country to overcome, the former first reached the point of destination. Contracoeur, the French commander, with 1,000 men and field pieces on a fleet of sixty boats and 300 canoes, dropped down the Allegheny and easily seized the fort then being constructed by the Ohio Company at its mouth, and proceeded to erect there an elaborate work which he called Fort Du Quesne, after the Governor General. Informed of this proceeding, Washington pushed forward, and finding that a detachment of the French was in his immediate neighborhood, he made a forced march by night, and coming upon them unawares killed and captured the entire party save one. Ten of the French, including their commander, Jumonville, were killed, and twenty-one made prisoners. Col. Fry, the commander of the Americans, died at Will's Creek, where the command devolved on Washington. Though re-enforcements had been dispatched from the several colonies in response to the urgent appeals of Washington, none reached him but one company of 100 men under Capt. Mackay from South Carolina. Knowing that he was confronting a vastly superior force of the French, well supplied with artillery, he threw up works at a point called the Great Meadows, which he characterizes as a "charming field for an encounter," naming his hastily built fortification Fort Necessity. Stung by the loss of their leader, the French came out in strong force and soon invested the place. Unfortunately one part of Washington's position was easily commanded by the artillery of the French, which they were not slow in taking advantage of. The action opened on the 3d of July, and was continued till late at night. A capitulation was proposed by the French commander, which Washington reluctantly accepted, seeing all hope of re-enforcements reaching him, cut off, and on the 4th of July marched out with honors of war and fell back to Fort Cumberland.

Gov. Hamilton had strongly recommended, before hostilities opened, that the Assembly should provide for defense and establish a line of block-houses along

the frontier. But the Assembly, while willing to vote money for buying peace from the Indians, and contributions to the British crown, from which protection was claimed, was unwilling to contribute directly for even defensive warfare. In a single year, £8,000 were voted for Indian gratuities. The proprietors were appealed to to aid in bearing this burden. But while they were willing to contribute liberally for defense, they would give nothing for Indian gratuities. They sent to the colony cannon to the value of £400.

In February, 1753, John Penn, grandson of the founder, son of Richard, arrived in the colony, and as a mark of respect was immediately chosen a member of the Council and made its President. In consequence of the defeat of Washington at Fort Necessity, Gov. Hamilton convened the Assembly in extra session on the 6th of August, at which money was freely voted; but owing to the instructions given by the proprietors to their Deputy Governor not to sign any money bill that did not place the whole of the interest at their disposal, this action of the Assembly was abortive.

The English and French nations made strenuous exertions to strengthen their forces in America for the campaigns sure to be undertaken in 1754. The French, by being under the supreme authority of one governing power, the Governor General of Canada, were able to concentrate and bring all their power of men and resources to bear at the threatened point with more celerity and certainty than the English, who were dependent upon colonies scattered along all the sea board, and upon Legislatures penny-wise in voting money. To remedy these inconveniences, the English Government recommended a congress of all the colonies, together with the Six Nations, for the purpose of concerting plans for efficient defense. This Congress met on the 19th of June, 1754, the first ever convened in America. The Representatives from Pennsylvania were John Penn and Richard Peters for the Council, and Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin for the Assembly. The influence of the powerful mind of Franklin was already beginning to be felt, he having been Clerk of the Pennsylvania Assembly since 1736, and since 1750 had been a member. Heartily sympathizing with the movers in the purposes of this Congress, he came to Albany with a scheme of union prepared, which, having been presented and debated, was, on the 10th of July, adopted substantially as it came from his hands. It provided for the appointment of a President General by the Crown, and an Assembly of forty-eight members to be chosen by the several Colonial Assemblies. The plan was rejected by both parties in interest, the King considering the power vested in the representatives of the people too great, and every colony rejecting it because the President General was given "an influence greater than appeared to them proper in a plan of government intended for freemen."

CHAPTER X.

ROBERT H. MORRIS, 1754–56—WILLIAM DENNY, 1756–59—JAMES HAMILTON, 1759–63.

FINDING himself in a false position by the repugnant instructions of the proprietors, Gov. Hamilton had given notice in 1753, that, at the end of twelve months from its reception, he would resign. Accordingly in October, 1754, he was succeeded by Robert Hunter Morris, son of Lewis Morris, Chief Justice of New York and New Jersey, and Governor of New Jersey. The son

was bred a lawyer, and was for twenty-six years Councilor, and twenty Chief Justice of New Jersey. The Assembly, at its first session, voted a money bill, for £40,000, but not having the proviso required by the proprietors, it was vetoed. Determined to push military operations, the British Government had called early in the year for 3,000 volunteers from Pennsylvania, with subsistance, camp equipage and transportation, and had sent two regiments of the line, under Gen. Braddock, from Cork, Ireland. Landing at Alexandria, Va., he marched to Frederick, Md., where, finding no supplies of transportation, he halted. The Assembly of Pennsylvania had voted to borrow £5,000, on its own account, for the use of the crown in prosecuting the campaign, and had sent Franklin, who was then Postmaster General for the colonies, to Braddock to aid in prosecuting the expedition. Finding that the army was stopped for lack of transportation, Franklin returned into Pennsylvania, and by his commanding influence soon secured the necessary wagons and beasts of burden.

Braddock had formed extravagant plans for his campaign. He would march forward and reduce Fort Du Quesne, thence proceed against Fort Niagara, which having conquered he would close a season of triumphs by the capture of Fort Frontignace. But this is not the first time in warfare that the result of a campaign has failed to realize the promises of the manifesto. The orders brought by Braddock giving precedence of officers of the line over provincials gave offense, and Washington among others threw up his commission; but enamored of the profession of arms, he accepted a position offered him by Braddock as Aide-de-camp. Accustomed to the discipline of military establishments in old, long-settled countries, Braddock had little conception of making war in a wilderness with only Indian trails to move upon, and against wily savages. Washington had advised to push forward with pack horses, and, by rapidity of movement, forestall ample preparation. But Braddock had but one way of soldiering, and where roads did not exist for wagons he stopped to fell the forest and construct bridges over streams. The French, who were kept advised of every movement, made ample preparations to receive him. In the meantime, Washington fell sick; but intent on being up for the battle, he hastened forward as soon as sufficiently recovered, and only joined the army on the day before the fatal engagement. He had never seen much of the pride and circumstance of war, and when, on the morning of the 9th of July, the army of Braddock marched on across the Monongahela, with gay colors flying and martial music awakening the echoes of the forest, he was accustomed in after years to speak of it as the "most magnificent spectacle" that he had ever beheld. But the gay pageant was destined to be of short duration; for the army had only marched a little distance before it fell into an ambuscade skillfully laid by the French and Indians, and the forest resounded with the unearthly whoop of the Indians, and the continuous roar of musketry. The advance was checked and thrown into confusion by the French from their well-chosen position, and every tree upon the flanks of the long drawn out line concealed a murderous foe, who with unerring aim picked off the officers. A resolute defense was made, and the battle raged with great fury for three hours; but the fire of the English was ineffectual because directed against an invisible foe. Finally, the mounted officers having all fallen, killed or wounded, except Washington, being left without leaders, panic seized the survivors and "they ran," says Washington, "before the French and English like sheep before dogs." Of 1,460, in Braddock's army, 456 were killed, and 421 wounded, a greater mortality, in proportion to the number engaged, than has ever occurred in the annals of modern warfare. Sir Peter Halkett was killed, and

Braddock mortally wounded and brought off the field only with the greatest difficulty. When Orme and Morris, the other aids, fell, Washington acted alone with the greatest gallantry. In writing to his brother, he said: "I have been protected beyond all human probability or expectation; for I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me; yet I escaped unhurt, though death was leveling my companions on every side." In after years, when Washington visited the Great Kanawha country, he was approached by an Indian chieftain who said that in this battle he had fired his rifle many times at Washington and had told his young men to do the same; but when he saw that his bullets had no apparent effect, he had bidden them to desist, believing that the Great Spirit was protecting him.

The panic among the survivors of the English carried them back upon the reserve, commanded by Gen. Dunbar, who seems himself to have been seized with it, and without attempting to renew the campaign and return to the encounter, he joined in the flight which was not stayed until Fort Cumberland was reached. The French were anticipating a renewal of the struggle; but when they found that the English had fled leaving the frontier all unprotected, they left no stone unturned in whetting the minds of the savages for the work of plunder and blood, and in organizing relentless bands to range at will along all the wide frontier. The Indians could not be induced to pursue the retreating English, but fell to plundering the field. Nearly everything was lost, even to the camp chest of Braddock. The wounded General was taken back to the summit of Laurel Hill, where, four days after, he breathed his last. He was buried in the middle of the road, and the army marched over his grave that it might not be discovered or molested by the natives. The easy victory, won chiefly by the savages, served to encourage them in their fell work, in which, when their passions were aroused, no known people on earth were less touched by pity. The unprotected settler in his wilderness home was the easy prey of the torch and the scalping knife, and the burning cabin lit up the somber forests by their continuous blaze, and the shrieks of women and children resounded from the Hudson to the far Potomac Before the defeat of Braddock, there were 3,000 men capable of bearing arms west of the Susquehanna. In six months after, there were scarcely 100.

Gov. Morris made an earnest appeal to the Assembly for money to ward off the impending enemy and protect the settlers, in response to which the Assembly voted £50,000; but having no exemption of the proprietor's estates, it was rejected by the Governor, in accordance with his original instructions. Expeditions undertaken against Nova Scotia and at Crown Point were more fortunate than that before Du Quesne, and the Assembly voted £15,000 in bills of credit to aid in defraying the expense. The proprietors sent £5,000 as a gratuity, not as any part of expense that could of right be claimed of them.

In this hour of extremity, the Indians for the most part showed themselves a treacherous race, ever ready to take up on the stronger side. Even the Shawanese and Delawares, who had been loudest in their protestations of friendship for the English and readiness to fight for them, no sooner saw the French victorious than they gave ready ear to their advice to strike for the recovery of the lands which they had sold to the English.

In this pressing emergency, while the Governor and Assembly were waging a fruitless war of words over money bills, the pen of Franklin was busy in infusing a wholesome sentiment in the minds of the people. In a pamphlet that he issued, which he put in the familiar form of a dialogue, he answered the objections which had been urged to a legalized militia, and willing to show his devotion by deeds as well as words, he accepted the command upon the

frontier. By his exertions, a respectable force was raised, and though in the dead of winter, he commenced the erection of a line of forts and block-houses along the whole range of the Kittatinny Hills, from the Delaware to the Potomac, and had them completed and garrisoned with a body sufficient to withstand any force not provided with artillery. In the spring, he turned over the command to Col. Clapham, and returning to Philadelphia took his seat in the Assembly. The Governor now declared war against the Indians, who had established their headquarters thirty miles above Harris' Ferry, on the Susquehanna, and were busy in their work of robbery and devastation, having secured the greater portion of the crops of the previous season of the settlers whom they had killed or driven out. The peace party strongly objected to the course of the Governor, and voluntarily going among the Indians induced them to bury the hatchet. The Assembly which met in May, 1756, prepared a bill with the old clause for taxing the proprietors, as any other citizens, which the Governor was forbidden to approve by his instructions, "and the two parties were sharpening their wits for another wrangle over it," when Gov. Morris was superseded by William Denny, who arrived in the colony and assumed authority on the 20th of August, 1756. He was joyfully and cordially received, escorted through the streets by the regiments of Franklin and Duché, and royally feasted at the State House.

But the promise of efficient legislation was broken by an exhibition of the new Governor's instructions, which provided that every bill for the emission of money must place the proceeds at the joint disposal of the Governor and Assembly; paper currency could not be issued in excess of £40,000, nor could existing issues be confirmed unless proprietary rents were paid in sterling money; proprietary lands were permitted to be taxed which had been actually leased, provided that the taxes were paid out of the rents, but the tax could not become a lien upon the land. In the first Assembly, the contention became as acrimonious as ever.

Previous to the departure of Gov. Morris, as a retaliatory act he had issued a proclamation against the hostile Indians, providing for the payment of bounties: For every male Indian enemy above twelve years old, who shall be taken prisoner and delivered at any forts, garrisoned by troops in pay of this province, or to any of the county towns to the keepers of the common jails there, the sum of one hundred and fifty Spanish dollars or pieces of eight; for the scalp of every male Indian above the age of twelve years, produced as evidence of their being killed, the sum of one hundred and thirty pieces of eight; for every female Indian taken prisoner and brought in as aforesaid, and for every male Indian under the age of twelve years, taken and brought in, one hundred and thirty pieces of eight; for the scalp of every Indian woman produced as evidence of their being killed, the sum of fifty pieces of eight." Liberal bounties were also offered for the delivering up of settlers who had been carried away captive.

But the operation which had the most wholesome and pacifying effect upon the savages, and caused them to stop in their mad career and consider the chances of war and the punishment they were calling down upon their own heads, though executed under the rule of Gov. Denny, was planned and provided for, and was really a part of the aggressive and vigorous policy of Gov. Morris. In response to the act of Assembly, providing for the calling out and organizing the militia, twenty-five companies were recruited, and had been stationed along the line of posts that had been established for the defense of the frontiers. At Kittanning, on the Allegheny River, the Indians had one of the largest of their towns in the State, and was a recruiting station and

rallying point for sending out their murderous bands. The plan proposed and adopted by Gov. Morris, and approved and accepted by Gov. Denny, was to send out a strong detachment from the militia for the reduction of this stronghold. Accordingly, in August, 1756, Col. Armstrong, with a force of three hundred men, made a forced march, and, arriving unperceived in the neighborhood of the town, sent the main body by a wide detour from above, to come in upon the river a few hundred yards below. At 3 o'clock on the morning of the 7th of September, the troops had gained their position undiscovered, and at dawn the attack was made. Shielded from view by the tall corn which covered all the flats, the troops were able to reach in close proximity to the cabins unobserved. Jacobs, the chief, sounded the war-whoop, and made a stout resistance, keeping up a rapid fire from the loop holes in his cabin. Not desiring to push his advantage to the issue of no quarter, Armstrong called on the savages to surrender; but this they refused to do, declaring that they were men and would never be prisoners. Finding that they would not yield, and that they were determined to sell their lives at the dearest rate, he gave orders to fire the huts, and the whole town was soon wrapt in flames. As the heat began to reach the warriors, some sung, while wrung with the death agonies; others broke for the river and were shot down as they fled. Jacobs, in attempting to climb through a window, was killed. All calls for surrender were received with derision, one declaring that he did not care for death, and that he could kill four or five before he died. Gunpowder, small arms and valuable goods which had been distributed to them only the day before by the French, fell into the hands of the victors. The triumph was complete, few if any escaping to tell the sad tale. Col. Armstrong's celerity of movement and well conceived and executed plan of action were publicly acknowledged, and he was voted a medal and plate by the city of Philadelphia.

The finances of the colony, on account of the repeated failures of the money bills, were in a deplorable condition. Military operations could not be carried on and vigorous campaigns prosecuted without ready money. Accordingly, in the first meeting of the Assembly after the arrival of the new Governor, a bill was passed levying £100,000 on all property alike, real and personal, private and proprietary. This Gov. Denny vetoed. Seeing that money must be had, the Assembly finally passed a bill exempting the proprietary estates, but determined to lay their grievances before the Crown. To this end, two Commissioners were appointed, Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin, to proceed to England and beg the interference of the royal Government in their behalf. Failing health and business engagements of Norris prevented his acceptance, and Franklin proceeded alone. He had so often defended the Assembly in public and in drawing remonstrances that the whole subject was at his fingers' ends.

Military operations throughout the colonies, during the year 1757, conducted under the command of the Earl of Loudoun were sluggish, and resulted only in disaster and disgrace. The Indians were active in Pennsylvania, and kept the settlers throughout nearly all the colonies in a continual ferment, hostile bands stealing in upon the defenseless inhabitants as they went to their plantings and sowings, and greatly interfering with or preventing altogether the raising of the ordinary crops. In 1758, Loudoun was recalled, and Gen. Abercrombie was given chief command, with Wolfe, Amherst and Forbes as his subordinates. It was determined to direct operations simultaneously upon three points—Fort Du Quesne, Louisburg and the forts upon the great lakes. Gen. Forbes commanded the forces sent against Fort Du Quesne. With a detachment of royal troops, and militia from Pennsylvania

and Virginia, under command of Cols. Bouquet and Washington, his column moved in July, 1758. The French were well ordered for receiving the attack, and the battle in front of the fort raged with great fury; but they were finally driven, and the fort, with its munitions, fell into the hands of the victors, and was garrisoned by 400 Pennsylvanians. Returning, Forbes placed his remaining forces in barracks at Lancaster.

Franklin, upon his arrival in England, presented the grievances before the proprietors, and, that he might get his case before the royal advisers and the British public, wrote frequent articles for the press, and issued a pamphlet entitled "Historical Review of the Constitution and Government of Pennsylvania." The dispute was adroitly managed by Franklin before the Privy Council, and was finally decided substantially in the interest of the Assembly. It was provided that the proprietors' estates should be taxed, but that their located uncultivated lands should be assessed as low as the lowest uncultivated lands of the settlers, that bills issued by the Assembly should be receivable in payment of quit rents, and that the Deputy Governor should have a voice in disposing of the revenues. Thus was a vexed question of long standing finally put to rest. So successfully had Franklin managed this controversy that the colonies of Massachusetts, Maryland and Georgia appointed him their agent in England.

In October, 1759, James Hamilton was again appointed Governor, in place of Gov. Denny, who had by stress of circumstances transcended his instructions. The British Government, considering that the colonies had borne more than their proportionate expense in carrying on the war against the French and Indians, voted £200,000 for five years, to be divided among the colonies, the share falling to Pennsylvania being £26,000. On the 25th of October, 1760, George II died, and was succeeded by his grandson, George III. Early in 1762, war was declared between Great Britain and Spain, but was of short continuance, peace having been declared in November following, by which Spain and France relinquished to the English substantially the territory east of the Mississippi. The wise men of the various Indian nations inhabiting this wide territory viewed with concern this sudden expansion of English power, fearing that they would eventually be pushed from their hunting grounds and pleasant haunts by the rapidly multiplying pale faces. The Indians have ever been noted for proceeding against an enemy secretly and treacherously. Believing that by concerted action the English might be cut off and utterly exterminated, a secret league was entered into by the Shawanese and the tribes dwelling along the Ohio River, under the leadership of a powerful chieftain, Pontiac, by which swift destruction was everywhere to be meted out to the white man upon an hour of an appointed day. The plan was thoroughly understood by the red men, and heartily entered into. The day dawned and the blow fell in May, 1763. The forts at Presque Isle, Le Boeuf, Venango, La Ray, St. Joseph's, Miamis, Onaethtanon, Sandusky and Michilimackinack, all fell before the unanticipated attacks of the savages who were making protestations of friendship, and the garrisons were put to the slaughter. Fort Pitt (Du Quesne), Niagara and Detroit alone, of all this line of forts, held out. Pontiac in person conducted the siege of Detroit, which he vigorously pushed from May until October, paying his warriors with promises written on bits of birch bark, which he subsequently religiously redeemed. It is an evidence of his great power that he could unite his people in so general and secretly kept a compact, and that in this siege of Detroit he was able to hold his warriors up to the work so long and so vigorously even after all hope of success must have reasonably been abandoned. The attack fell with great

severity upon the Pennsylvania settlers, and they continued to be driven in until Shippensbung, in Cumberland County, became the extreme outpost of civilization. The savages stole unawares upon the laborers in the fields, or came stealthily in at the midnight hour and spared neither trembling age nor helpless infancy, firing houses, barns, crops and everything combustible. The suffering of the frontiersmen in this fatal year can scarcely be conceived.

Col. Armstrong with a hastily collected force advanced upon their towns and forts at Muncy and Great Island, which he destroyed; but the Indians escaped and withdrew before him. He sent a detachment under Col. Bouquet to the relief of Fort Pitt, which still held out, though closely invested by the dusky warriors. At Fort Ligonier, Bouquet halted and sent forward thirty men, who stealthily pushed past the Indians under cover of night, and reached the fort, carrying intelligence that succor was at hand. Discovering that a force was advancing upon them, the Indians turned upon the troops of Bouquet, and before he was aware that an enemy was near, he found himself surrounded and all means of escape apparently cut off. By a skillfully laid ambuscade, Bouquet, sending a small detachment to steal away as if in retreat, induced the Indians to follow, and when stretched out in pursuit, the main body in concealment fell upon the unsuspecting savages, and routed them with immense slaughter, when he advanced to the relief of the fort unchecked.

As we have already seen, the boundary line between Maryland and Pennsylvania had long been in dispute, and had occasioned serious disturbances among the settlers in the lifetime of Penn, and repeatedly since. It was not definitely settled till 1760, when a beginning was made of a final adjustment, though so intricate were the conditions that the work was prosecuted for seven years by a large force of surveyors, axmen and pioneers. The charter of Lord Baltimore made the northern boundary of Maryland the 40th degree of latitude; but whether the beginning or end of the 40th was not specified. The charter of Penn, which was subsequent, made his southern boundary the *beginning* of the 40th parallel. If, as Lord Baltimore claimed, his northern boundary was the end of the 40th, then the city of Philadelphia and all the settled parts of Pennsylvania would have been included in Maryland. If, as Penn claimed by express terms of his charter, his southern line was the beginning of the 40th, then the city of Baltimore, and even a part of the District of Columbia, including nearly the whole of Maryland would have been swallowed up by Pennsylvania. It was evident to the royal Council that neither claim could be rightfully allowed, and hence resort was had to compromise. Penn insisted upon retaining free communication with the open ocean by the Delaware Bay. Accordingly, it was decided that beginning at Cape Henlopen, which by mistake in marking the maps was fifteen miles below the present location, opposite Cape May, a line should be run due west to a point half way between this cape and the shore of Chesapeake Bay; from this point "a line was to be run northerly in such direction that it should be tangent on the west side to a circle with a radius of twelve miles, whose center was the center of the court house at New Castle. From the exact tangent point, a line was to be run due north until it should reach a point fifteen miles south on the parallel of latitude of the most southern point in the boundary of the city of Philadelphia, and this point when accurately found by horizontal measurement, was to be the corner bound between Maryland and Pennsylvania, and subsequently, when Delaware was set off from Pennsylvania, was the boundary of the three States. From this bound a line was to be run due west five degrees of longitude from the Delaware, which was to be the western limit of Pennsylvania, and the line thus ascertained was to mark the division between Maryland and

Pennsylvania, and forever settle the vexed question. If the due north line should cut any part of the circle about New Castle, the slice so cut should belong to New Castle. Such a segment was cut. This plan of settlement was entered into on the 10th of May, 1732, between Thomas and Richard, sons of William Penn, on the one part, and Charles, Lord Baltimore, great-grandson of the patentee. But the actual marking of the boundaries was still deferred, and as the settlers were taking out patents for their lands, it was necessary that it should be definitely known in which State the lands lay. Accordingly, in 1739, in obedience to a decree in Council, a temporary line was run upon a new basis, which now often appears in litigations to plague the brain of the attorney.

Commissioners were again appointed in 1751, who made a few of the measurements, but owing to objections raised on the part of Maryland, the work was abandoned. Finally, the proprietors, Thomas and Richard Penn, and Frederic, Lord Baltimore, entered into an agreement for the executing of the survey, and John Lukens and Archibald McLean on the part of the Penns, and Thomas Garnett and Jonathan Hall on the part of Lord Baltimore, were appointed with a suitable corps of assistants to lay off the lines. After these surveyors had been three years at work, the proprietors in England, thinking that there was not enough energy and practical and scientific knowledge manifested by these surveyors, appointed Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, two mathematicians and surveyors, to proceed to America and take charge of the work. They brought with them the most perfect and best constructed instruments known to science, arriving in Philadelphia on the 15th of November, 1763, and, assisted by some of the old surveyors, entered upon their work. By the 4th of June, 1766, they had reached the summit of the Little Allegheny, when the Indians began to be troublesome. They looked with an evil eye on the mathematical and astronomical instruments, and felt a secret dread and fear of the consequences of the frequent and long-continued peering into the heavens. The Six Nations were understood to be inimical to the further progress of the survey. But through the influence of Sir William Johnson a treaty was concluded, providing for the prosecution of the work unmolested, and a number of chieftains were sent to accompany the surveying party. Mason and Dixon now had with them thirty surveyors, fifteen axmen, and fifteen Indians of consequence. Again the attitude of the Indians gave cause of fear, and on the 29th of September, twenty-six of the surveyors abandoned the expedition and returned to Philadelphia. Having reached a point 244 miles from the Delaware, and within thirty-six miles of the western limit of the State, in the bottom of a deep, dark valley, they came upon a well-worn Indian path, and here the Indians gave notice that it was the will of the Six Nations that this survey proceed no further. There was no questioning this authority, and no means at command for resisting, and accordingly the party broke up and returned to Philadelphia. And this was the end of the labors of Mason and Dixon upon this boundary. From the fact that this was subsequently the mark of division between the Free and Slave States, Mason and Dixon's line became familiar in American politics. The line was marked by stones which were quarried and engraved in England, on one side having the arms of Penn, and on the opposite those of Lord Baltimore. These stones were firmly set every five miles. At the end of each intermediate mile a smaller stone was placed, having on one side engraved the letter P., and on the opposite side the letter M. The remainder of the line was finished and marked in 1782–84 by other surveyors. A vista was cut through the forest eight yards in width the whole distance, which seemed in looking back through it to come to a

point at the distance of two miles. In 1849, the stone at the northeast corner of Maryland having been removed, a resurvey of the line was ordered, and suryeyors were appointed by the three States of Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, who called to their aid Col. James D. Graham. Some few errors were discovered in the old survey, but in the main it was found to be accurate.

John Penn, grandson of the founder, and son of Richard, had come to the colony in 1753, and, having acted as President of the Council, was, in 1763, commissioned Governor in place of Hamilton. The conspiracy of Pontiac, though abortive in the results contemplated, left the minds of the Indians in a most dangerous state. The more resolute, who had entered heartily into the views of their leader, still felt that his purposes were patriotic, and hence sought, by every means possible, to ravage and destroy the English settlements. The Moravian Indians at Nain and Wichetunk, though regarded as friendly, were suspected of indirectly aiding in the savage warfare by trading firearms and ammunition. They were accordingly removed to Philadelphia that they might be out of the way of temptation. At the old Indian town of Conestoga, there lived some score of natives. Many heartless murders had been committed along the frontier, and the perpetrators had been traced to this Conestoga town; and while the Conestoga band were not known to be implicated in these outrages, their town was regarded as the lurking place of roving savages who were. For protection, the settlers in the neighboring districts of Paxton and Donegal, had organized a band known as the Paxton boys. Earnest requests were made by Rev. John Elder and John Harris to the Government to remove this band at Conestoga; but as nothing was done, and fearful depredations and slaughter continued, a party of these Paxton rangers attacked the town and put the savages to the sword. Some few escaped, among them a known bloodthirsty savage, who were taken into the jail at Lancaster for protection; but the rangers, following them, overpowered the jailer, and breaking into the jail murdered the fugitives. Intense excitement was occasioned by this outbreak, and Gov. Penn issued his proclamation offering rewards for the apprehension of the perpetrators. Some few were taken; but so excellent was their character and standing, and such were the provocations, that no convictions followed. Apprehensions for the safety of the Moravian Indians induced the Government to remove them to Province Island, and, feeling insecure there, they asked to be sent to England. For safety, they were sent to New York, but the Governor of that province refused them permission to land, as did also the Governor of New Jersey, and they were brought back to Philadelphia and put in barracks under strong guard. The Paxton boys, in a considerable body, were at that time at Germantown interceding for their brethren, who were then in durance and threatened with trial. Franklin was sent out to confer with them on the part of the Government. In defending their course, they said: "Whilst more than a thousand families, reduced to extreme distress, during the last and present war, by the attacks of skulking parties of Indians upon the frontier, were destitute, and were suffered by the public to depend on private charity, a hundred and twenty of the perpetrators of the most horrid barbarities were supported by the province, and protected from the fury of the brave relatives of the murdered." Influenced by the persuasions of Franklin, they consented to return to their homes, leaving only Matthew Smith and James Gibson to represent them before the courts.

CHAPTER XI.

JOHN PENN, 1763-71—JAMES HAMILTON, 1771—RICHARD PENN, 1771-73—JOHN PENN, 1773-76.

A DIFFERENCE having arisen between the Governor and Assembly on the vexed question of levying money, the Assembly passed a series of resolutions advocating that the "powers of government ought to be separated from the power attending the immense proprietary property, and lodged in the hands of the King." After an interval of fifty days—that time for reflection and discussion might be given—the Assembly again convened, and adopted a petition praying the King to assume the direct government of the province, though this policy was strongly opposed by some of the ablest members, as Isaac Norris and John Dickinson. The Quaker element was generally in favor of the change.

Indian barbarities still continuing along the frontier, Gov. Penn declared war against the Shawanese and Delawares in July, 1765, and sent Col. Bouquet with a body of Pennsylvania troops against them. By the 3d of October, he had come up to the Muskingum, in the heart of the most thickly peopled Indian territory. So rapid had been the movement of Bouquet that the savages had no intelligence of his advance until he was upon them with no preparations for defense. They sued for peace, and a treaty was entered into by which the savages agreed to abstain from further hostilities until a general treaty could be concluded with Sir William Johnson, the general agent for Indian affairs for all the colonies, and to deliver up all English captives who had been carried away during the years of trouble. Two hundred and eight were quickly gathered up and brought in, and many others were to follow, who were now widely scattered. The relatives of many of these captives had proceeded with the train of Bouquet, intent on reclaiming those who had been dear to them. Some were joyfully received, while others who had been borne off in youth had become attached to their captors, and force was necessary to bring them away. "On the return of the army, some of the Indians obtained leave to accompany their former captives to Fort Pitt, and employed themselves in hunting and carrying provisions for them on the road."

The great struggle for the independence of the colonies of the British crown was now close at hand, and the first sounds of the controversy were beginning to be heard. Sir William Keith, that enterprising Governor whose head seemed to have been full of new projects, as early as 1739 had proposed to lay a uniform tax on stamped paper in all the colonies, to realize funds for the common defense. Acting upon this hint, Grenville, the British Minister, notified the colonists in 1763 of his purpose to impose such a tax. Against this they remonstrated. Instead of this, a tax on imports, to be paid in coin, was adopted. This was even more distasteful. The Assembly of Rhode Island, in October, 1765, submitted a paper to all the colonial assemblies, with a view to uniting in a common petition to the King against parliamentary taxation. This was favorably acted on by the Assembly of Pennsylvania, and Franklin was appointed agent to represent their cause before the British Parliament. The Stamp Act had been passed on the 22d of March, 1765. Its passage excited bitter opposition, and a resolution, asserting that the Colonial

Assemblies had the exclusive right to levy taxes, was passed by the Virginia Assembly, and concurred in by all the others. The Massachusetts Assembly proposed a meeting of delegates in New York on the second Tuesday of October, 1765, to confer upon the subject. The Pennsylvania Assembly adopted the suggestion, and appointed Messrs. Fox, Morton, Bryan and Dickenson as delegates. This Congress met according to the call and adopted a respectful petition to the King, and a memorial to Parliament, which were signed by all the members and forwarded for presentation by the Colonial Agents in England. The Stamp Act was to go into effect on the 1st of November. On the last day of October, the newspapers were dressed in mourning, and suspended publication. The publishers agreed not to use the stamped paper. The people, as with one mind, determined to dress in homespun, resolved not to use imported goods, and, to stimulate the production of wool the colonists covenanted not to eat lamb for the space of one year. The result of this policy was soon felt by British manufacturers who became clamorous for repeal of the obnoxious measures, and it was accordingly repealed on the 18th of March, 1766.

Determined in some form to draw a revenue from the colonies, an act was passed in 1767, to lay a duty on tea, paper, printers' colors, and glass. The Assembly of Pennsylvania passed a resolution on the 20th of February, 1768, instructing its agent in London to urge its repeal, and at the session in May received and entered upon its minutes a circular letter from the Massachusetts Assembly, setting forth the grounds on which objection to the act should be urged. This circular occasioned hostile feeling among the ministry, and the Secretary for foreign affairs wrote to Gov. Penn to urge the Assembly to take no notice of it; but if they approved its sentiments, to prorogue their sittings. This letter was transmitted to the Assembly, and soon after one from the Virginia Assembly was presented, urging union of all the colonies in opposing the several schemes of taxation. This recommendation was adopted, and committees appointed to draw a petition to the King and to each of the Houses of Parliament. To lead public sentiment, and have it well grounded in the arguments used against taxation, John Dickinson, one of the ablest of the Pennsylvania legislators at this time, published a number of articles purporting to come from a plain farmer, under the title of the *Farmer's Letters*, which became popular, the idea that they were the work of one in humble life, helping to swell the tide of popularity. They were republished in all the colonies, and exerted a commanding influence. Alarmed at the unanimity of feeling against the proposed schemes, and supposing that it was the amount of the tax that gave offense, Parliament reduced the rate in 1769 to one sixth of the original sum, and in 1770 abolished it altogether, except three pence a pound on tea But it was the principle, and not the amount that was objected to, and at the next session of the Assembly in Pennsylvania, their agent in London was directed to urge its repeal altogether.

It would seem incredible that the colony of Connecticut should lay claim to any part of the territory of Pennsylvania, but so it was. The New England charters gave limitless extent westward even to the shores of the Pacific Ocean, and south to the northern limits of the tract ceded to Lord Baltimore—the territory between the 40th and 46th degrees of north latitude, and from ocean to ocean. To encroach upon New York with its teaming population was not calculated to tempt the enterprise of the settler; but the rich virgin soil, and agreeable climate of the wide Wyoming Valley, as yet unappropriated, was likely to attract the eye of the explorer. Accordingly, at the general conference with the Indians held at Albany

in 1754, the Connecticut delegates made a purchase of a large tract in this valley; a company, known as the Susquehanna Company, was formed in Connecticut to promote the settlement of these lands, and a considerable immigration commenced. The proprietors of Pennsylvania had also made purchase of the Indians of these identical lands, and the royal charters of Charles and James covered this ground. But the Plymouth Charter antedated Penn's. Remonstrances were made to the Governor of Connecticut against encroachments upon the territory of Pennsylvania. The answer returned was understood to disclaim any control over the company by the Connecticut authorities; but it subsequently appeared that the Government was determined to defend the settlers in the possession of their lands. In 1768, the proprietors of Pennsylvania entered into treaty stipulations with the Indians for all this tract covered by the claim of the Susquehanna Company. Pennsylvania settlers, attracted by the beauty of the place, gradually acquired lands under Pennsylvania patents, and the two parties began to infringe on each other's claims. Forts and block-houses were erected for the protection of either party, and a petty warfare was kept up, which resulted in some loss of life. Butler, the leader of the Connecticut party, proposed to settle their differences by personal combat of thirty picked men on each side. In order to assert more direct legal control over the settlers, a new county was formed which was called Northumberland, that embraced all the disputed lands. But the Sheriff, even with the aid of the militia, which he called to his assistance, was unable to execute his processes, and exercise legal control, the New Englanders, proving a resolute set, determined to hold the splendid farms which they had marked out for themselves, and were bringing rapidly under cultivation. To the remonstrances of Gov. Penn, Gov. Trumbull responded that the Susquehanna Company was proceeding in good faith under provisions secured by the charter of the Plymouth Colony, and proposed that the question be submitted to a competent tribunal for arbitrament. An *ex parte* statement was submitted to Council in London by the Connecticut party, and an opinion was rendered favorable to its claims. In September, 1775, the matter was submitted to the Continental Congress, and a committee of that body, to whom it was referred, reported in favor of the Connecticut claim, apportioning a tract out of the very bowels of Pennsylvania nearly as large as the whole State of Connecticut. This action was promptly rejected by the Assembly of Pennsylvania, and a final decision was not reached until 1802, when Congress decided in favor of the integrity of the chartered rights of Penn.

Richard Penn, son of the founder, died in 1771, whereupon Gov. John Penn returned to England, leaving the President of the Council, James Hamilton, at the head of the Government. John Penn, eldest son of Richard, succeeded to the proprietary interests of his father, which he held in conjunction with his uncle, Thomas, and in October of the same year, Richard, the second son, was commissioned Governor. He held the office but about two years, and in that time won the confidence and esteem of the people, and so much attached was he to the popular cause, that upon his return to England, in 1775, he was intrusted by Congress with the last petition of the colonies ever presented to the King. In August, 1773, John Penn returned with the commission of Governor, superseding his brother Richard. Soon after his arrival, the Governor of Virginia, Lord Dunmore, issued his proclamation, laying claim to a vast territory in the Monongalia Valley, including the site of the present city of Pittsburgh, and upon the withdrawal of the British garrison, one Connolly had taken possession of it in the name of Virginia. Gov. Penn issued a counter-proclamation, calling on all good citizens within the borders of Penn-

sylvania, to preserve their allegiance to his Government, seized and imprisoned Connolly, and sent Commissioners to Virginia to effect an amicable settlement. These, Dunmore refused to hear, and was preparing to assert his authority by force; but his Council refused to vote him money for this purpose.

To encourage the sale of tea in the colonies, and establish the principle of taxation, the export duty was removed. The colonies took the alarm. At a public meeting called in Philadelphia to consider the subject, on the 18th of October, 1773, resolutions were adopted in which it was declared: "That the disposal of their own property is the inherent right of freemen; that there can be no property in that which another can, of right, take from us without our consent; that the claim of Parliament to tax America, is, in other words, a claim of right to levy contributions on us at pleasure." The East India Company now made preparations for sending large importations of tea into the colonies. The ships destined for Philadelphia and New York, on approaching port, and being advised of the exasperated state of public feeling, returned to England with their cargoes. Those sent to Boston came into the harbor; but at night a party disguised as Mohawk Indians boarded the vessels, and breaking open the packages, emptied 300 chests into the sea. The ministry, on being apprised of this act, closed the port of Boston, and subverted the colonial charter. Early in the year, committees of correspondence had been established in all the colonies, by means of which the temper and feeling in each was well understood by the others, and concert of action was secured. The hard conditions imposed on the town of Boston and the colony of Massachusetts Bay, aroused the sympathy of all; for, they argued, we know not how soon the heavy hand of oppression may be felt by any of us. Philadelphia declared at a public meeting that the people of Pennsylvania would continue firmly to adhere to the cause of American liberty, and urged the calling of a Congress of delegates to consider the general interests.

At a meeting held in Philadelphia on the 18th of June, 1774, at which nearly 8,000 people were convened, it was decided that a Continental Congress ought to be held, and appointed a committee of correspondence to communicate with similar committees in the several counties of Pennsylvania and in the several colonies. On the 15th of July, 1774, delegates from all the counties, summoned by this committee, assembled in Philadelphia, and declared that there existed an absolute necessity for a Colonial Congress. They accordingly recommended that the Assembly appoint delegates to such a Congress to represent Pennsylvania, and Joseph Galloway, Samuel Rhoads, George Ross, Edward Biddle, John Dickinson, Charles Humphries and Thomas Mifflin were appointed.

On the 4th of September, 1774, the first Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia. Peyton Randolph, of Virginia, was called to preside, and Charles Thomson, of Pennsylvania, was appointed Secretary. It was resolved that no more goods be imported from England, and that unless a pacification was effected previously, no more Colonial produce of the soil be exported thither after September 10, 1775. A declaration of rights was adopted, and addresses to the King, the people of Great Britain, and of British America were agreed to, after which the Congress adjourned to meet again on the 10th of May, 1775.

In January, 1775, another meeting of the county delegates was held in Philadelphia, at which the action of the Colonial Congress was approved, and while a restoration of harmony with the mother country was desired, yet if the arbitiary acts of Parliament were persisted in, they would at every hazard defend the "rights and liberties of America." The delegates appointed to

represent the colony in the Second Congress were Mifflin, Humphries, Biddle, Dickinson, Morton, Franklin, Wilson and Willing.

The government of Great Britain had determined with a strong hand to compel obedience to its behests. On the 19th of April, 1775, was fought the battle of Lexington, and the crimson fountain was opened. That blow was felt alike through all the colonies. The cause of one was the cause of all. A public meeting was held in Philadelphia, at which it was resolved to organize military companies in all the counties. The Assembly heartily seconded these views, and engaged to provide for the pay of the militia while in service. The Second Congress, which met in May, provided for organizing a continental army, fixing the quota for Pennsylvania at 4,300 men. The Assembly adopted the recommendation of Congress, provided for arming, disciplining and paying the militia, recommended the organizing minutemen for service in an emergency, made appropriations for the defense of the city, and offered a premium on the production of salt peter. Complications hourly thickened. Ticonderoga was captured on the 10th of May, and the battle of Bunker Hill was fought on the 17th of June. On the 15th of June, George Washington was appointed Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, supported by four Major Generals and eight Brigadiers.

The royal Governors were now an incumbrance greatly in the way of the popular movement, as were also the Assemblies where they refused to represent the popular will. Accordingly, Congress recommended that the several colonies should adopt such government as should "best conduce to the happiness and safety of their constituents in particular and America in general." This meant that each colony should set up a government for itself independent of the Crown. Accordingly, a public meeting was held in Philadelphia, at which it was resolved that the present Assembly is "not competent to the present exigencies of affairs," and that a new form of government ought to be adopted as recommended by Congress. The city committee of correspondence called on the county committees to secure the election of delegates to a colonial meeting for the purpose of considering this subject. On the 18th of June, the meeting was held in Philadelphia, and was organized by electing Thomas McKean President. It resolved to call a convention to frame a new constitution, provided the legal forms to be observed, and issued an address to the people.

Having thus by frequent argumentation grown familiar with the declaration of the inherent rights of every citizen, and with flatly declaring to the government of Great Britain that it had no right to pursue this policy or that, and the several States having been recommended to absolve themselves from allegience to the royal governments, and set up independent colonial governments of their own, it was a natural inference, and but a step further, to declare the colonies entirely independent of the British Government, and to organize for themselves a general continental government to hold the place of King and Parliament. The idea of independence had been seriously proposed, and several Colonial Assemblies had passed resolutions strongly recommending it. And yet there were those of age and experience who had supported independent principles in the stages of argumentation, before action was demanded, when they approached the brink of the fatal chasm, and had to decide whether to take the leap, hesitated. There were those in the Assembly of Pennsylvania who were reluctant to advise independence; but the majority voted to recommend its delegates to unite with the other colonies for the common good. The convention which had provided for holding a meeting of delegates to frame a new constitution, voted in favor of independence, and authorized the raising of 6,000 militia.

On the 7th of June, 1776, Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, introduced in Congress the proposition that, "the United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved." It was impossible to mistake or misinterpret the meaning of this language. The issue was fairly made up. It was warmly discussed. John Dickinson, one of the Pennsylvania delegates, and one who had been foremost in speaking and writing on the popular side, was not ready to cut off all hope of reconciliation, and depicted the disorganized condition in which the colonies would be left if the power and protection of Britain were thus suddenly removed. The vote upon the resolution was taken on the 2d of July, and resulted in the affirmative vote of all the States except Pennsylvania and Delaware, the delegates from these States being divided. A committee consisting of Adams, Franklin, Jefferson, Livingston and Sherman had been, some time previous, appointed to draw a formal statement of the Declaration, and the reasons "out of a decent respect to the opinions of mankind," which led to so important an act. The work was intrusted to a sub-committee consisting of Adams and Jefferson, and its composition was the work of Mr. Jefferson, though many of the ideas, and even the forms of expression, had been used again and again in the previous resolutions and pronunciamentoes of the Colonial Assemblies and public meetings. It had been reported on the 28th of June, and was sharply considered in all its parts, many verbal alterations having been made in the committee of five; but after the passage of the preliminary resolution, the result was a foregone conclusion, and on the 4th of July it was finally adopted and proclaimed to the world. Of the Pennsylvania delegation, Franklin, Wilson and Morton voted for it, and Willing and Humphrey against, Dickinson being absent. The colonial convention of Pennsylvania, being in session at the time, on receiving intelligence that a majority of its delegates in Congress had voted against the preliminary resolution, named a new delegation, omitting the names of Dickinson, Willing and Humphrey, and adding others which made it thus constituted—Franklin, Wilson, Morton, Morris, Clymer, Smith, Taylor and Ross. An engrossed copy of the Declaration was made, which was signed by all the members on the 2d of August following, on which are found the names from Pennsylvania above recited.

The convention for framing a new constitution for the colony met on the 15th of July, and was organized by electing Franklin President, and on the 28th of September completed its labors, having framed a new organic law and made all necessary provisions for putting it into operation. In the meantime the old proprietary Assembly adjourned on the 14th of June to the 26th of August. But a quorum failed to appear, and an adjournment was had to the 23d of September, when some routine business was attended to, chiefly providing for the payment of salaries and necessary bills, and on the 28th of September, after a stormy existence of nearly a century, this Assembly, the creature of Penn, adjourned never to meet again. With the ending of the Assembly ended the power of Gov. Penn. It is a singular circumstance, much noted by the believers in signs, that on the day of his arrival in America, which was Sunday, the earth in that locality was rocked by an earthquake, which was interpreted as an evil omen to his administration. He married the daughter of William Allen, Chief Justice of the colony, and, though at times falling under suspicion of favoring the royal cause, yet, as was believed, not with reason, he remained a quiet spectator of the great struggle, living at his country seat in Bucks County, where he died in February, 1795.

The titles of the proprietors to landed estates were suspended by the action

of the convention, and on the 27th of November, 1779, the Legislature passed an act vesting these estates in the commonwealth, but paying the proprietors a gratuity of £130,000, "in remembrance of the enterprising spirit of the Founder." This act did not touch the private estates of the proprietors, nor the tenths of manors. The British Government, in 1790, in consideration of the fact that it had been unable to vindicate its authority over the colony, and afford protection to the proprietors in the enjoyment of their chartered rights, voted an annuity of £4,000 to the heirs and descendants of Penn. This annuity has been regularly paid to the present time, 1884.

CHAPTER XII.

THOMAS WHARTON, JR., 1777-78—GEORGE BRYAN, 1778—JOSEPH REED, 1778-81—WILLIAM MOORE, 1781-82—JOHN DICKINSON, 1782-85—BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, 1785-88.

THE convention which framed the constitution appointed a Committee of Safety, consisting of twenty-five members, to whom was intrusted the government of the colony until the proposed constitution should be framed and put in operation. Thomas Rittenhouse was chosen President of this body, who was consequently in effect Governor. The new constitution, which was unanimously adopted on the 28th of September, was to take effect from its passage. It provided for an Assembly to be elected annually; a Supreme Executive Council of twelve members to be elected for a term of three years; Assemblymen to be eligible but four years out of seven, and Councilmen but one term in seven years. Members of Congress were chosen by the Assembly. The constitution could not be changed for seven years. It provided for the election of censors every seven years, who were to decide whether there was a demand for its revision. If so, they were to call a convention for the purpose. On the 6th of August, 1776, Thomas Wharton, Jr., was chosen President of the Council of Safety.

The struggle with the parent country was now fully inaugurated. The British Parliament had declared the colonists rebels, had voted a force of 55,000 men, and in addition had hired 17,000 Hessian soldiers, to subdue them. The Congress on its part had declared the objects for which arms had been taken up, and had issued bills of credit to the amount of $6,000,000. Parliament had resolved upon a vigorous campaign, to strike heavy and rapid blows, and quickly end the war. The first campaign had been conducted in Massachusetts, and by the efficient conduct of Washington, Gen. Howe, the leader of the British, was compelled to capitulate and withdraw to Halifax in March, 1776. On the 28th of June, Sir Henry Clinton, with a strong detachment, in conjunction with Sir Peter Parker of the navy, made a combined land and naval attack upon the defenses of Charleston Harbor, where he was met by Gen. William Moultrie, with the Carolina Militia, and after a severe battle, in which the British fleet was roughly handled, Clinton withdrew and returned to New York, whither the main body of the British Army, under Gen. Howe, had come, and where Admiral Lord Howe, with a large fleet directly from England, joined them. To this formidable power led by the best talent in the British Army, Washington could muster no adequate force to oppose, and he was obliged to withdraw from Long Island, from New York, from

Harlem, from White Plains, to cross into New Jersey, and abandon position after position, until he had reached the right bank of the Delaware on Pennsylvania soil. A heavy detachment under Cornwallis followed, and would have crossed the Delaware in pursuit, but advised to a cautious policy by Howe, he waited for ice to form on the waters of the Delaware before passing over. The fall of Philadelphia now seemed imminent. Washington had not sufficient force to face the whole power of the British Army. On the 2d of December, the Supreme Council ordered all places of business in the city to be closed, the schools to be dismissed, and advised preparation for removing the women and children and valuables. On the 12th, the Congress which was in session here adjourned to meet in Baltimore, taking with them all papers and public records, and leaving a committee, of which Robert Morris was Chairman, to act in conjunction with Washington for the safety of the place. Gen. Putnam was dispatched on the same day with a detachment of soldiers to take command in the city.

In this emergency the Council issued a stirring address: "If you wish to live in freedom, and are determined to maintain that best boon of heaven, you have no time to deliberate. A manly resistance will secure every blessing, inactivity and sloth will bring horror and destruction. * * * May heaven, which has bestowed the blessings of liberty upon you, awaken you to a proper sense of your danger and arouse that manly spirit of virtuous resolution which has ever bidden defiance to the efforts of tyranny. May you ever have the glorious prize of liberty in view, and bear with a becoming fortitude the fatigues and severities of a winter campaign. That, and that only, will entitle you to the superlative distinction of being deemed, under God, the deliverers of your country." Such were the arguments which our fathers made use of in conducting the struggle against the British Empire.

Washington, who had, from the opening of the campaign before New York, been obliged for the most part to act upon the defensive, formed the plan to suddenly turn upon his pursuers and offer battle. Accordingly, on the night of the 25th of December, taking a picked body of men, he moved up several miles to Taylorsville, where he crossed the river, though at flood tide and filled with floating ice, and moving down to Trenton, where a detachment of the British Army was posted, made a bold and vigorous attack. Taken by surprise, though now after sunrise, the battle was soon decided in favor of the Americans. Some fifty of the enemy were slain and over a thousand taken prisoners, with quantities of arms, ammunition and stores captured. A triumphal entry was made at Philadelphia, when the prisoners and the spoils of war moved through the streets under guard of the victorious troops, and were marched away to the prison camp at Lancaster. Washington, who was smarting under a forced inactivity, by reason of paucity of numbers and lack of arms and material, and who had been forced constantly to retire before a defiant foe, now took courage. His name was upon every tongue, and foreign Governments were disposed to give the States a fair chance in their struggle for nationality. The lukewarm were encouraged to enlist under the banner of freedom. It had great strategic value. The British had intended to push forward and occupy Philadelphia at once, which, being now virtually the capital of the new nation, had it been captured at this juncture, would have given them the occasion for claiming a triumphal ending of the war. But this advantage, though gained by a detachment small in numbers yet great in courage, caused the commander of a powerful and well appointed army to give up all intention of attempting to capture the Pennsylvania metropolis in this campaign, and retiring into winter cantonments upon the Raritan to await

the settled weather of the spring for an entirely new cast of operations. Washington, emboldened by his success, led all his forces into New Jersey, and pushing past Trenton, where Cornwallis, the royal leader, had brought his main body by a forced march, under cover of darkness, attacked the British reserves at Princeton. But now the enemy had become wary and vigilant, and, summoned by the booming of cannon, Cornwallis hastened back to the relief of his hard pressed columns. Washington, finding that the enemy's whole army was within easy call and knowing that he had no hope of success with his weak army, withdrew. Washington now went into winter quarters at Morristown, and by constant vigilance was able to gather marauding parties of the British who ventured far away from their works.

Putnam commenced fortifications at a point below Philadelphia upon the Delaware, and at commanding positions upon the outskirts, and on being summoned to the army was succeeded by Gen. Irvine, and he by Gen. Gates. On the 4th of March, 1777, the two Houses of the Legislature, elected under the new constitution, assembled, and in joint convention chose Thomas Wharton, Jr., President, and George Bryan Vice President. Penn had expressed the idea that power was preserved the better by due formality and ceremony, and, accordingly, this event was celebrated with much pomp, the result being declared in a loud voice from the court house, amid the shouts of the gathered throngs and the booming of the captured cannon brought from the field of Trenton. The title bestowed upon the new chief officer of the State was fitted by its length and high-sounding epithets to inspire the multitude with awe and reverence: "His Excellency, Thomas Wharton, Junior, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, Captain General, and Commander-in-chief in and over the same."

While the enemy was disposed to be cautious after the New Jersey campaign so humiliating to the native pride of the Britain, yet he was determined to bring all available forces into the field for the campaign of 1777, and to strike a decisive blow. Early in April, great activity was observed among the shipping in New York Harbor, and Washington communicated to Congress his opinion that Philadelphia was the object against which the blow would be aimed. This announcement of probable peril induced the Council to issue a proclamation urging enlistments, and Congress ordered the opening of a camp for drilling recruits in Pennsylvania, and Benedict Arnold, who was at this time a trusted General, was ordered to the command of it. So many new vessels and transports of all classes had been discovered to have come into New York Harbor, probably forwarded from England, that Washington sent Gen. Mifflin, on the 10th of June, to Congress, bearing a letter in which he expressed the settled conviction that the enemy meditated an immediate descent upon some part of Pennsylvania. Gen. Mifflin proceeded to examine the defensive works of the city which had been begun on the previous advance of the British, and recommended such changes and new works as seemed best adapted for its protection. The preparations for defense were vigorously prosecuted. The militia were called out and placed in two camps, one at Chester and the other at Downington. Fire ships were held in readiness to be used against vessels attempting the ascent of the river.

Lord Howe, being determined not to move until ample preparations were completed, allowed the greater part of the summer to wear away before he advanced. Finally, having embarked a force of 19,500 men on a fleet of 300 transports, he sailed southward. Washington promptly made a corresponding march overland, passing through Philadelphia on the 24th of August. Howe, suspecting that preparations would be made for impeding the passage of the

Delaware, sailed past its mouth, and moving up the Chesapeake instead, debarked fifty-four miles from Philadelphia and commenced the march northward. Great activity was now manifested in the city. The water-spouts were melted to furnish bullets, fair hands were busied in rolling cartidges, powerful chevaux-de-frise were planted to impede the navigation of the river, and the last division of the militia of the city, which had been divided into three classes, was called out. Washington, who had crossed the Brandywine, soon confronted the advance of Howe, and brisk skirmishing at once opened. Seeing that he was likely to have the right of his position at Red Clay Creek, where he had intended to give battle, turned by the largely superior force of the enemy, under cover of darkness on the night of the 8th of September, he withdrew across the Brandywine at Chad's Ford, and posting Armstrong with the militia upon the left, at Pyle's Ford, where the banks were rugged and precipitous, and Sullivan, who was second in command, upon the right at Brinton's Ford under cover of forest, he himself took post with three divisions, Sterling's, Stephens', and his own, in front of the main avenue of approach at Chad's. Howe, discovering that Washington was well posted, determined to flank him. Accordingly, on the 11th, sending Knyphausen with a division of Hessians to make vigorous demonstrations upon Washington's front at Chad's, he, with the corps of Cornwallis, in light marching order, moved up the Brandywine, far past the right flank of Washington, crossed the Brandywine at the fords of Trumbull and Jeffrey unopposed, and, moving down came upon Washington's right, held by Sullivan, all unsuspecting and unprepared to receive him. Though Howe was favored by a dense fog which on that morning hung on all the valley, yet it had hardly been commenced before Washington discovered the move and divined its purpose. His resolution was instantly taken. He ordered Sullivan to cross the stream at Brinton's, and resolutely turn the left flank of Knyphausen, when he himself with the main body would move over and crush the British Army in detail. Is was a brilliant conception, was feasible, and promised the most complete success. But what chagrin and mortification, to receive, at the moment when he expected to hear the music of Sullivan's guns doubling up the left of the enemy, and giving notice to him to commence the passage, a message from that officer advising him that he had disobeyed his orders to cross, having received intelligence that the enemy were not moving northward, and that he was still in position at the ford. Thus balked, Washington had no alternative but to remain in position, and it was not long before the guns of Howe were heard moving in upon his all unguarded right flank. The best dispositions were made which time would permit. His main body with the force of Sullivan took position along the brow of the hill on which stands the Birmingham meeting house, and the battle opened and was pushed with vigor the whole day. Overborne by numbers, and weakened by losses, Washington was obliged to retire, leaving the enemy in possession of the field. The young French nobleman, Lafayette, was wounded while gallantly serving in this fight. The wounded were carried into the Birmingham meeting house, where the blood stains are visible to this day, enterprising relic hunters for many generations having been busy in loosening small slivers with the points of their knives.

The British now moved cautiously toward Philadelphia. On the 16th of September, at a point some twenty miles west of Philadelphia, Washington again made a stand, and a battle opened with brisk skirmishing, but a heavy rain storm coming on the powder of the patriot soldiers was completely ruined on account of their defective cartridge boxes. On the night of the 20th, Gen. Anthony Wayne, who had been hanging on the rear of the enemy with his

detachment, was surprised by Gen. Gray with a heavy column, who fell suddenly upon the Americans in bivouac and put them to the sword, giving no quarter. This disgraceful slaughter which brought a stigma and an indelible stain upon the British arms is known as the Paoli Massacre. Fifty-three of the victims of the black flag were buried in one grave. A neat monument of white marble was erected forty years afterward over their moldering remains by the Republican Artillerists of Chester County, which vandal hands have not spared in their mania for relics.

Congress remained in Philadelphia while these military operations were going on at its very doors; but on the 18th of September adjourned to meet at Lancaster, though subsequently, on the 30th, removed across the Susquehanna to York, where it remained in session till after the evacuation in the following summer. The Council remained until two days before the fall of the city, when having dispatched the records of the loan office and the more valuable papers to Easton, it adjourned to Lancaster. On the 26th, the British Army entered the city. Deborah Logan in her memoir says: "The army marched in and took possession in the city in the morning. We were up-stairs and saw them pass the State House. They looked well, clean and well clad, and the contrast between them and our own poor, bare-footed, ragged troops was very great and caused a feeling of despair. * * * * Early in the afternoon, Lord Cornwallis' suite arrived and took possession of my mother's house." But though now holding undisputed possession of the American capital, Howe found his position an uncomfortable one, for his fleet was in the Chesapeake, and the Delaware and all its defenses were in possession of the Americans, and Washington had manned the forts with some of his most resolute troops. Varnum's brigade, led by Cols. Angell and Greene, Rhode Island troops, were at Fort Mercer, at Red Bank, and this the enemy determined to attack. On the 21st of October, with a force of 2,500 men, led by Count Donop, the attack was made. In two columns they moved as to an easy victory. But the steady fire of the defenders when come in easy range, swept them down with deadly effect, and, retiring with a loss of over 400 and their leader mortally wounded, they did not renew the fight. Its reduction was of prime importance, and powerful works were built and equipped to bear upon the devoted fort on all sides, and the heavy guns of the fleet were brought up to aid in overpowering it. For six long days the greatest weight of metal was poured upon it from the land and the naval force, but without effect, the sides of the fort successfully withstanding the plunging of their powerful missiles. As a last resort, the great vessels were run suddenly in close under the walls, and manning the yard-arms with sharp-shooters, so effectually silenced and drove away the gunners that the fort fell easily into the British hands and the river was opened to navigation. The army of Washington, after being recruited and put in light marching order, was led to Germantown where, on the morning of the 3d of October the enemy was met. A heavy fog that morning had obscured friend and foe alike, occasioning confusion in the ranks, and though the opening promised well, and some progress was made, yet the enemy was too strong to be moved, and the American leader was forced to retire to his camp at White Marsh. Though the river had now been opened and the city was thoroughly fortified for resisting attack, yet Howe felt not quite easy in having the American Army quartered in so close striking distance, and accordingly, on the 4th of December, with nearly his entire army, moved out, intending to take Washington at White Marsh, sixteen miles away, by surprise, and by rapidity of action gain an easy victory. But by the heroism and fidelity of Lydia Darrah, who, as she had often done before

passed the guards to go to the mill for flour, the news of the coming of Howe was communicated to Washington, who was prepared to receive him. Finding that he could effect nothing, Howe returned to the city, having had the wearisome march at this wintry season without effect.

Washington now crossed the Schuylkill and went into winter quarters at Valley Forge. The cold of that winter was intense; the troops, half clad and indifferently fed, suffered severely, the prints of their naked feet in frost and snow being often tinted with patriot blood. Grown impatient of the small results from the immensely expensive campaigns carried on across the ocean, the Ministry relieved Lord Howe, and appointed Sir Henry Clinton to the chief command.

The Commissioners whom Congress had sent to France early in the fall of 1776—Franklin, Dean and Lee had been busy in making interest for the united colonies at the French Court, and so successful were they, that arms and ammunition and loans of money were procured from time to time. Indeed, so persuasive had they become that it was a saying current at court that, "It was fortunate for the King that Franklin did not take it into his head to ask to have the palace at Versailles stripped of its furniture to send to his dear Americans, for his majesty would have been unable to deny him." Finally, a convention was concluded, by which France agreed to use the royal army and navy as faithful allies of the Americans against the English. Accordingly, a fleet of four powerful frigates, and twelve ships were dispatched under command of the Count D'Estaing to shut up the British fleet in the Delaware. The plan was ingenious, particularly worthy of the long head of Franklin. But by some means, intelligence of the sailing of the French fleet reached the English cabinet, who immediately ordered the evacuation of the Delaware, whereupon the Admiral weighed anchor and sailed away with his entire fleet to New York, and D'Estaing, upon his arrival at the mouth of the Delaware, found that the bird had flown.

Clinton evacuated Philadelphia and moved across New Jersey in the direction of New York. Washington closely followed and came up with the enemy on the plains of Monmouth, on the 28th of June, 1778, where a sanguinary battle was fought which lasted the whole day, resulting in the triumph of the American arms, and Pennsylvania was rid of British troops.

The enemy was no sooner well away from the city than Congress returned from York and resumed its sittings in its former quarters, June 24, 1778, and on the following day, the Colonial Legislature returned from Lancaster. Gen Arnold, who was disabled by a wound received at Saratoga, from field duty; was given command in the city and marched in with a regiment on the day following the evacuation. On the 23d of May, 1778, President Wharton died suddenly of quinsy, while in attendance upon the Council at Lancaster, when George Bryan, the Vice President, became the Acting President. Bryan was a philanthropist in deed as well as word. Up to this time, African slavery had been tolerated in the colony. In his message of the 9th of November, he said: "This or some better scheme, would tend to abrogate slavery—the approbrium of America—from among us. * * * In divesting the State of slaves, you will equally serve the cause of humanity and policy, and offer to God one of the most proper and best returns of gratitude for His great deliverance of us and our posterity from thraldom; you will also set your character for justice and benevolence in the true point of view to Europe, who are astonished to see a people eager for liberty holding negroes in bondage." He perfected a bill for the extinguishment of claims to slaves which was passed by the Assembly, March 1, 1780, by a vote of thirty-four to eighteen, providing that no child

of slave parents born after that date should be a slave, but a servant till the age of twenty-eight years, when all claim for service should end. Thus by a simple enactment resolutely pressed by Bryan, was slavery forever rooted out of Pennsylvania.

In the summer of 1778, a force of savages and sour-faced tories to the number of some 1,200, under the leadership of one Col. John Butler, a cruel and inhuman wretch, descending from the north, broke into the Wyoming Valley on the 2d of July. The strong men were in the army of Washington, and the only defenders were old men, beardless boys and resolute women. These, to the number of about 400, under Zebulon Butler, a brave soldier who had won distinction in the old French war, and who happened to be present, moved resolutely out to meet the invaders. Overborne by numbers, the inhabitants were beaten and put to the sword, the few who escaped retreating to Forty Fort, whither the helpless, up and down the valley, had sought safety. Here humane terms of surrender were agreed to, and the families returned to their homes, supposing all danger to be past. But the savages had tasted blood, and perhaps confiscated liquor, and were little mindful of capitulations. The night of the 5th was given to indiscriminate massacre. The cries of the helpless rang out upon the night air, and the heavens along all the valley were lighted up with the flames of burning cottages; "and when the moon arose, the terrified inhabitants were fleeing to the Wilkesbarre Mountains, and the dark morasses of the Pocono Mountain beyond." Most of these were emigrants from Connecticut, and they made their way homeward as fast as their feet would carry them, many of them crossing the Hudson at Poughkeepsie, where they told their tales of woe.

In February, 1778, Parliament, grown tired of this long and wasting war, abolished taxes of which the Americans had complained, and a committee, composed of Earl Carlisle, George Johnstone and William Eden, were sent empowered to forgive past offenses, and to conclude peace with the colonies, upon submission to the British crown. Congress would not listen to their proposals, maintaining that the people of America had done nothing that needed forgiveness, and that no conference could be accorded so long as the English Armies remained on American soil. Finding that negotiations could not be entered upon with the government, they sought to worm their way by base bribes. Johnstone proposed to Gen. Reed that if he would lend his aid to bring about terms of pacification, 10,000 guineas and the best office in the country should be his. The answer of the stern General was a type of the feeling which swayed every patriot: "My influence is but small, but were it as great as Gov. Johntone would insinuate, the King of Great Britain has nothing in his gift that would tempt me."

At the election held for President, the choice fell upon Joseph Reed, with George Bryan Vice President, subsequently Matthew Smith, and finally William Moore. Reed was an erudite lawyer, and had held the positions of Private Secretary to Washington, and subsequently Adjutant General of the army. He was inaugurated on the 1st of December, 1778. Upon the return of the patriots to Philadelphia, after the departure of the British, a bitter feeling existed between them and the tories who had remained at their homes, and had largely profited by the British occupancy. The soldiers became demonstrative, especially against those lawyers who had defended the tories in court. Some of those most obnoxious took refuge in the house of James Wilson, a signer of the Declaration. Private soldiers, in passing, fired upon it, and shots were returned whereby one was killed and several wounded. The President on being informed of these proceedings, rode at the head of the

city troop, and dispersed the assailants, capturing the leaders. The Academy and College of Philadelphia required by its charter an oath of allegiance to the King of Great Britain. An act was passed November 27, 1779, abrogating the former charter, and vesting its property in a new board. An endowment from confiscated estates was settled upon it of £15,000 annually. The name of the institution was changed to the "University of the State of Pennsylvania."

France was now aiding the American cause with money and large land and naval forces. While some of the patriots remained steadfast and were disposed to sacrifice and endure all for the success of the struggle, many, who should have been in the ranks rallying around Washington, had grown lukewarm. The General was mortified that the French should come across the ocean and make great sacrifices to help us, and should find so much indifference prevailing among the citizens of many of the States, and so few coming forward to fill up the decimated ranks. At the request of Washington, President Reed was invested with extraordinary powers, in 1780, which were used prudently but effectively. During the winter of this year, some of the veteran soldiers of the Pennsylvania line mutinied and commenced the march on Philadelphia with arms in their hands. Some of them had just cause. They had enlisted for "three years or the war," meaning for three years unless the war closed sooner. But the authorities had interpreted it to mean, three years, or as much longer as the war should last. President Reed immediately rode out to meet the mutineers, heard their cause, and pledged if all would return to camp, to have those who had honorably served out the full term of three years discharged, which was agreed to. Before the arrival of the President, two emissaries from the enemy who had heard of the disaffection, came into camp, offering strong inducements for them to continue the revolt. But the mutineers spurned the offer, and delivered them over to the officers, by whom they were tried and executed as spies. The soldiers who had so patriotically arrested and handed over these messengers were offered a reward of fifty guineas; but they refused it on the plea that they were acting under authority of the Board of Sergeants, under whose order the mutiny was being conducted. Accordingly, a hundred guineas were offered to this board for their fidelity. Their answer showed how conscientious even mutineers can be: "It was not for the sake, or through any expectation of reward; but for the love of our country, that we sent the spies immediately to Gen. Wayne; we therefore do not consider ourselves entitled to any other reward but the love of our country, and do jointly agree to accept of no other."

William Moore was elected President to succeed Joseph Reed, from November 14, 1781, but held the office less than one year, the term of three years for which he had been a Councilman having expired, which was the limit of service. James Potter was chosen Vice President. On account of the hostile attitude of the Ohio Indians, it was decided to call out a body of volunteers, numbering some 400 from the counties of Washington and Westmoreland, where the outrages upon the settlers had been most sorely felt, who chose for their commander Col. William Crawford, of Westmoreland. The expedition met a most unfortunate fate. It was defeated and cut to pieces, and the leader taken captive and burned at the stake. Crawford County, which was settled very soon afterward, was named in honor of this unfortunate soldier. In the month of November, intelligence was communicated to the Legislature that Pennsylvania soldiers, confined as prisoners of war on board of the Jersey, an old hulk lying in the New York Harbor, were in a starving condition, receiving at the hands of the enemy the most barbarous and inhuman treat-

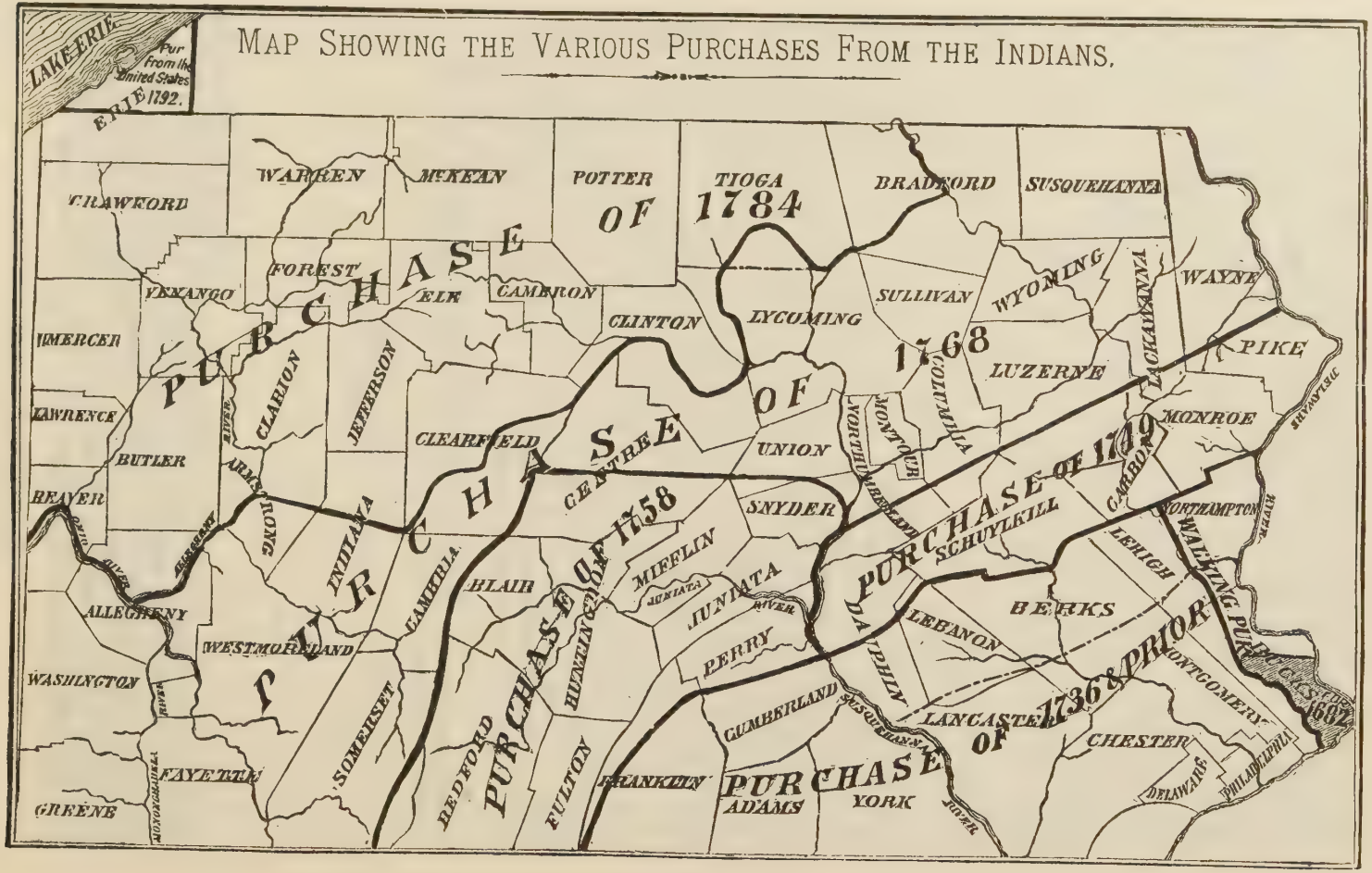
ment. Fifty barrels of flour and 300 bushels of potatoes were immediately sent to them.

In the State election of 1782, contested with great violence, John Dickinson was chosen President, and James Ewing Vice President. On the 12th of March, 1783, intelligence was first received of the signing of the preliminary treaty in which independence was acknowledged, and on the 11th of April Congress sent forth the joyful proclamation ordering a cessation of hostilities. The soldiers of Burgoyne, who had been confined in the prison camp at Lancaster, were put upon the march for New York, passing through Philadelphia on the way. Everywhere was joy unspeakable. The obstructions were removed from the Delaware, and the white wings of commerce again came fluttering on every breeze. In June, Pennsylvania soldiers, exasperated by delay in receiving their pay and their discharge, and impatient to return to their homes, to a considerable number marched from their camp at Lancaster, and arriving at Philadelphia sent a committee with arms in their hands to the State House door with a remonstrance asking permission to elect officers to command them for the redress of their grievances, their own having left them, and employing threats in case of refusal. These demands the Council rejected. The President of Congress, hearing of these proceedings, called a special session, which resolved to demand that the militia of the State should be called out to quell the insurgents. The Council refused to resort to this extreme measure, when Congress, watchful of its dignity and of its supposed supreme authority, left Philadelphia and established itself in Princeton, N. J., and though invited to return at its next session, it refused, and met at Annapolis.

In October, 1784, the last treaty was concluded with the Indians at Fort Stanwix. The Commissioners at this conference purchased from the natives all the land to the north of the Ohio River, and the line of Pine Creek, which completed the entire limits of the State with the exception of the triangle at Erie, which was acquired from the United States in 1792. This purchase was confirmed by the Wyandots and Delawares at Fort McIntosh January 21, 1785, and the grant was made secure.

In September, 1785, after a long absence in the service of his country abroad, perfecting treaties, and otherwise establishing just relations with other nations, the venerable Benjamin Franklin, then nearly eighty years old, feeling the infirmities of age coming upon him, asked to be relieved of the duties of Minister at the Court of France, and returned to Philadelphia. Soon after his arrival, he was elected President of the Council. Charles Biddle was elected Vice President. It was at this period that a citizen of Pennsylvania, John Fitch, secured a patent on his invention for propelling boats by steam. In May, 1787, the convention to frame a constitution for the United States met in Philadelphia. The delegation from Pennsylvania was Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, Thomas Mifflin, George Clymer, Thomas Fitzsimons, Jared Ingersoll, James Wilson and Gouverneur Morris. Upon the completion of their work, the instrument was submitted to the several States for adoption. A convention was called in Pennsylvania, which met on the 21st of November, and though encountering resolute opposition, it was finally adopted on the 12th of December. On the following day, the convention, the Supreme Council and officers of the State and city government, moved in procession to the old court house, where the adoption of the constitution was formally proclaimed amidst the booming of cannon and the ringing of bells.

On the 5th of November, 1788, Thomas Mifflin was elected President, and George Ross Vice President. The constitution of the State, framed in and adapted to the exigencies of an emergency, was ill suited to the needs of State


MAP SHOWING THE VARIOUS PURCHASES FROM THE INDIANS.
LAKE ERIE
Pur from the United States
ERIE 1792.
CRAWFORD
WARREN
MCKEAN
POTTER
TIOGA
BRADFORD
SUSQUEHANNA
PURCHASE OF 1784
VENANGO
FOREST
ELK
CAMERON
CLINTON
LYCOMING
SULLIVAN
WYOMING
WAYNE
MERCER
CLARION
JEFFERSON
PURCHASE OF 1768
LUZERNE
LACKAWANNA
PIKE
LAWRENCE
BUTLER
CLEARFIELD
CENTRE
UNION
NORTHUMBERLAND
MONTOUR
COLUMBIA
MONROE
PURCHASE OF 1749
BEAVER
ARMSTRONG
INDIANA
CAMBRIA
BLAIR
SNYDER
SCHUYLKILL
CARBON
NORTHAMPTON
PURCHASE OF 1758
MIFFLIN
JUNIATA
PURCHASE
LEHIGH
WALKING PURCHASE 1737
ALLEGHENY
WESTMORELAND
PERRY
LEBANON
BERKS
DAUPHIN
WASHINGTON
SOMERSET
HUNTINGDON
CUMBERLAND
SUSQUEHANNA
LANCASTER
1736 & PRIOR
MONTGOMERY
1682
FAYETTE
REDFORD
FULTON
FRANKLIN
PURCHASE
ADAMS
YORK
CHESTER
DELAWARE
PHILADELPHIA
GREENE

in its relations to the new nation. Accordingly, a convention assembled for the purpose of preparing a new constitution in November, 1789, which was finally adopted on September 2, 1790. By the provisions of this instrument, the Executive Council was abolished, and the executive duties were vested in the hands of a Governor. Legislation was intrusted to an Assembly and a Senate. The judicial system was continued, the terms of the Judges extending through good behavior.

CHAPTER XIII.

THOMAS MIFFLIN, 1788-99—THOMAS MCKEAN, 1799-1808—SIMON SNYDER, 1808-17—WILLIAM FINDLAY, 1817-20—JOSEPH HEISTER, 1820-23—JOHN A. SHULZE, 1823-29—GEORGE WOLFE, 1829-35—JOSEPH RITNER, 1835-39.

THE first election under the new Constitution resulted in the choice of Thomas Mifflin, who was re-elected for three successive terms, giving him the distinction of having been longer in the executive chair than any other person, a period of eleven years. A system of internal improvements was now commenced, by which vast water communications were undertaken, and a mountain of debt was accumulated, a portion of which hangs over the State to this day. In 1793, the Bank of Pennsylvania was chartered, one-third of the capital stock of which was subscribed for by the State. Branches were established at Lancaster, Harrisburg, Reading, Easton and Pittsburgh. The branches were discontinued in 1810; in 1843, the stock held by the State was sold, and in 1857, it ceased to exist. In 1793, the yellow fever visited Philadelphia. It was deadly in its effects and produced a panic unparalleled. Gov. Mifflin, and Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the United States Treasury, were attacked. "Men of affluent fortunes, who gave daily employment and subsistence to hundreds, were abandoned to the care of a negro after their wives, children, friends, clerks and servants had fled away and left them to their fate. In some cases, at the commencement of the disorder, no money could procure proper attendance. Many of the poor perished without a human being to hand them a drink of water, to administer medicines, or to perform any charitable office for them. Nearly 5,000 perished by this wasting pestilence."

The whisky insurrection in some of the western counties of the State, which occurred in 1794, excited, by its lawlessness and wide extent, general interest. An act of Congress, of March 3, 1791, laid a tax on distilled spirits of four pence per gallon. The then counties of Washington, Westmoreland, Allegheny and Fayette, comprising the southwestern quarter of the State, were almost exclusively engaged in the production of grain. Being far removed from any market, the product of their farms brought them scarcely any returns. The consequence was that a large proportion of the surplus grain was turned into distilled spirits, and nearly every other farmer was a distiller. This tax was seen to bear heavily upon them, from which a non-producer of spirits was relieved. A rash determination was formed to resist its collection, and a belief entertained, if all were united in resisting, it would be taken off. Frequent altercations occurred between the persons appointed United States Collectors and these resisting citizens. As an example, on the 5th of Septem-

ber, 1791, a party in disguise set upon Robert Johnson, a Collector for Allegheny and Washington, tarred and feathered him, cut off his hair, took away his horse, and left him in this plight to proceed. Writs for the arrest of the perpetrators were issued, but none dared to venture into the territory to serve them. On May 8, 1792, the law was modified, and the tax reduced. In September, 1792, President Washington issued his proclamation commanding all persons to submit to the law, and to forbear from further opposition. But these measures had no effect, and the insurgents began to organize for forcible resistance. One Maj. Macfarlane, who in command of a party of insurrectionists, was killed in an encounter with United States soldiers at the house of Gen. Neville. The feeling now ran very high, and it was hardly safe for any person to breathe a whisper against the insurgents throughout all this district. "A breath," says Brackenridge, "in favor of the law, was sufficient to ruin any man. A clergyman was not thought orthodox in the pulpit unless against the law. A physician was not capable of administering medicine, unless his principles were right in this respect. A lawyer could get no practice, nor a merchant at a country store get custom if for the law. On the contrary, to talk against the law was the way to office and emolument. To go to the Legislature or to Congress you must make a noise against it. It was the Shibboleth of safety and the ladder of ambition" One Bradford had, of his own notion, issued a circular letter to the Colonels of regiments to assemble with their commands at Braddock's field on the 1st of August, where they appointed officers and moved on to Pittsburgh. After having burned a barn, and made some noisy demonstrations, they were induced by some cool heads to return. These turbulent proceedings coming to the ears of the State and National authorities at Philadelphia, measures were concerted to promptly and effectually check them. Gov. Mifflin appointed Chief Justice McKean, and Gen. William Irvine to proceed to the disaffected district, ascertain the facts, and try to bring the leaders to justice. President Washington issued a proclamation commanding all persons in arms to disperse to their homes on or before the 1st of September, *proximo*, and called out the militia of four States —Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia—to the number of 13,000 men, to enforce his commands. The quota of Pennsylvania was 4,500 infantry, 500 cavalry, 200 artillery, and Gov. Mifflin took command in person. Gov. Richard Howell, of New Jersey, Gov. Thomas S. Lee, of Maryland, and Gen. Daniel Morgan, of Virginia, commanded the forces from their States, and Gov. Henry Lee, of Virginia, was placed in chief command. President Washington, accompanied by Gen. Knox, Secretary of War, Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, and Richard Peters, of the United States District Court, set out on the 1st of October, for the seat of the disturbance. On Friday, the President reached Harrisburg, and on Saturday Carlisle, whither the army had preceded him. In the meantime a committee, consisting of James Ross, Jasper Yeates and William Bradford, was appointed by President Washington to proceed to the disaffected district, and endeavor to persuade misguided citizens to return to their allegiance.

A meeting of 260 delegates from the four counties was held at Parkinson's Ferry on the 14th of August, at which the state of their cause was considered, resolutions adopted, and a committee of sixty, one from each county, was appointed, and a sub-committee of twelve was named to confer with the United States Commissioners, McKean and Irvine. These conferences with the State and National Committees were successful in arranging preliminary conditions of settlement. On the 2d of October, the Committee of Safety of the insurgents met at Parkinson's Ferry, and having now learned that a well-organized

army, with Washington at its head, was marching westward for enforcing obedience to the laws, appointed a committee of two, William Findley and David Reddick, to meet the President, and assure him that the disaffected were disposed to return to their duty. They met Washington at Carlisle, and several conferences were held, and assurances given of implicit obedience; but the President said that as the troops had been called out, the orders for the march would not be countermanded. The President proceeded forward on the 11th of October to Chambersburg, reached Williamsport on the 13th and Fort Cumberland on the 14th, where he reviewed the Virginia and Maryland forces, and arrived at Bedford on the 19th. Remaining a few days, and being satisfied that the sentiment of the people had changed, he returned to Philadelphia, arriving on the 28th, leaving Gen. Lee to meet the Commissioners and make such conditions of pacification as should seem just. Another meeting of the Committee of Safety was held at Parkinson's Ferry on the 24th, at which assurances of abandonment of opposition to the laws were received, and the same committee, with the addition of Thomas Morton and Ephriam Douglass, was directed to return to headquarters and give assurance of this disposition. They did not reach Bedford until after the departure of Washington. But at Uniontown they met Gen. Lee, with whom it was agreed that the citizens of these four counties should subscribe to an oath to support the Constitution and obey the laws. Justices of the Peace issued notices that books were opened for subscribing to the oath, and Gen. Lee issued a judicious address urging ready obedience. Seeing that all requirments were being faithfully carried out, an order was issued on the 17th of November for the return of the army and its disbandment. A number of arrests were made and trials and convictions were had, but all were ultimately pardoned.

With the exception of a slight ebulition at the prospect of a war with France in 1797, and a resistance to the operation of the "Homestead Tax" in Lehigh, Berks and Northampton Counties, when the militia was called out, the remainder of the term of Gov. Mifflin passed in comparative quiet. By an act of the Legislature of the 3d of April, 1799, the capital of the State was removed to Lancaster, and soon after the capital of the United States to Washington, the house on Ninth street, which had been built for the residence of the President of the United States, passing to the use of the University of Pennsylvania.

During the administrations of Thomas McKean, who was elected Governor in 1799, and Simon Snyder in 1808, little beyond heated political contests marked the even tenor of the government, until the breaking-out of the troubles which eventuated in the war of 1812. The blockade of the coast of France in 1806, and the retaliatory measures of Napoleon in his Berlin decree, swept American commerce, which had hitherto preserved a neutral attitude and profited by European wars, from the seas. The haughty conduct of Great Britain in boarding American vessels for suspected deserters from the British Navy, under cover of which the grossest outrages were committed, American seaman being dragged from the decks of their vessels and impressed into the English service, induced President Jefferson, in July, 1807, to issue his proclamation ordering all British armed vessels to leave the waters of the United States, and forbidding any to enter, until satisfaction for the past and security for the future should be provided for. Upon the meeting of Congress in December, an embargo was laid, detaining all vessels, American and foreign, then in American waters, and ordering home all vessels abroad. Negotiations were conducted between the two countries, but no definite results were reached, and in the meantime causes of irritation multiplied until 1812, when President

Madison declared war against Great Britain, known as the war of 1812. Pennsylvania promptly seconded the National Government, the message of Gov. Snyder on the occasion ringing like a silver clarion. The national call for 100,000 men required 14,000 from this State, but so great was the enthusiasm, that several times this number tendered their services. The State force was organized in two divisions, to the command of the first of which Maj Gen. Isaac Morrell was appointed, and to the second Maj. Gen. Adamson Tannehill. Gunboats and privateers were built in the harbor of Erie and on the Delaware, and the defenses upon the latter were put in order and suitable armaments provided. At Tippecanoe, at Detroit, at Queenstown Heights, at the River Raisin, at Fort Stephenson, and at the River Thames, the war was waged with varying success. Upon the water, Commodores Decatur, Hull, Jones, Perry, Lawrence, Porter and McDonough made a bright chapter in American history, as was to be wished, inasmuch as the war had been undertaken to vindicate the honor and integrity of that branch of the service. Napoleon, having met with disaster, and his power having been broken, 14,000 of Wellington's veterans were sent to Canada, and the campaign of the next year was opened with vigor. But at the battles of Oswego, Chippewa, Lundy's Lane, Fort Erie and Plattsburg, the tide was turned against the enemy, and the country saved from invasion. The act which created most alarm to Pennsylvania was one of vandalism scarcely matched in the annals of warfare. In August, 1814, Gen. Ross, with 6,000 men in a flotilla of sixty sails, moved up Chesapeake Bay, fired the capitol, President's house and the various offices of cabinet ministers, and these costly and substantial buildings, the national library and all the records of the Government from its foundation were utterly destroyed. Shortly afterward, Ross appeared before Baltimore with the design of multiplying his barbarisms, but he was met by a force hastily collected under Gen. Samuel Smith, a Pennsylvania veteran of the Revolution, and in the brief engagement which ensued Ross was killed. In the severe battle with the corps of Gen Stricker, the British lost some 300 men. The fleet in the meantime opened a fierce bombardment of Fort McHenry, and during the day and ensuing night 1,500 bombshells were thrown, but all to no purpose, the gallant defense of Maj. Armistead proving successful. It was during this awful night that Maj. Key, who was a prisoner on board the fleet, wrote the song of the Star Spangled Banner, which became the national lyric. It was in the administration of Gov. Snyder in February, 1810, that an act was passed making Harrisburg the seat of government, and a commission raised for erecting public buildings, the sessions of the Legislature being held in the court house at Harrisburg from 1812 to 1821.

The administrations of William Findley, elected in 1817, Joseph Heister, in 1820, and John Andrew Schulz in 1823, followed without marked events. Parties became very warm in their discussions and in their management of political campaigns. The charters for the forty banks which had been passed in a fit of frenzy over the veto of Gov. Snyder set a flood of paper money afloat. The public improvements, principally in opening lines of canal, were prosecuted, and vast debts incurred. These lines of conveyances were vitally needful to move the immense products and vast resources of the State

Previous to the year 1820, little use was made of stone coal. Judge Obediah Gore, a blacksmith, used it upon his forge as early as 1769, and found the heat stronger and more enduring than that produced by charcoal. In 1791, Phillip Ginter, of Carbon County, a hunter by profession, having on one occasion been out all day without discovering any game, was returning at night discouraged and worn out, across the Mauch Chunk Mountain, when, in

DIAGRAM SHOWING PROPORTIONATE ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF ANTHRACITE COAL IN PENNSYLVANIA SINCE 1820.

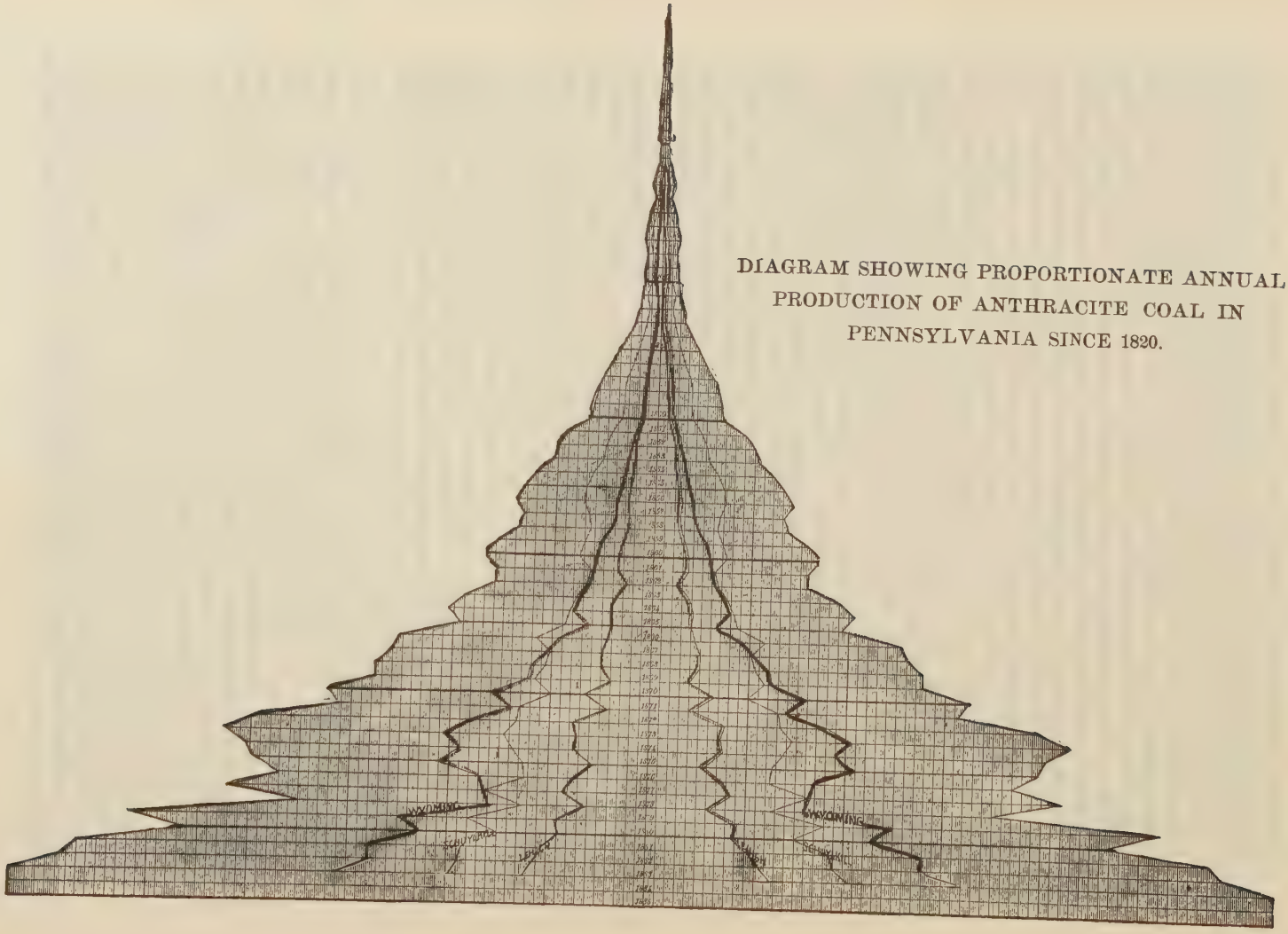


TABLE SHOWING AMOUNT OF ANTHRACITE COAL PRODUCED IN EACH REGION SINCE 1820.

YEAR.	Lehigh, Tons.	Schuylkill Tons.	Wyoming, Tons.	Lyken's Valley, Shamokin, etc., Tons.	Total Tons.
1820	365	.....	.....	.....	365
1821	1,073	.....	.....	.....	1,073
1822	2,240	1,480	.....	.....	3,720
1823	5,823	1,128	.....	.....	6,951
1824	9,541	1,567	.....	.....	11,108
1825	28,393	6,500	.....	.....	34,893
1826	31,280	16,767	.....	.....	48,047
1827	32,074	31,360	.....	.....	63,434
1828	30,232	47,284	.....	.....	77,516
1829	25,110	79,973	7,000	.....	112,083
1830	41,750	89,934	43,000	.....	174,734
1831	40,966	81,854	54,000	.....	176,820
1832	70,000	209,271	84,000	.....	363,871
1833	123,001	252,971	111,777	.....	487,748
1834	106,244	226,692	43,700	.....	376,636
1835	131,250	339,508	90,000	.....	560,758
1836	148,211	432,045	103,861	.....	684,117
1837	223,902	530,152	115,387	.....	879,441
1838	213,615	446,875	78,207	.....	738,697
1839	221,025	463,147	122,300	11,930	818,402
1840	225,313	475,091	148,470	15,505	864,384
1841	143,037	603,003	192,270	21,463	959,973
1842	272,540	573,273	252,599	10,000	1,108,418
1843	267,793	700,200	285,605	10,000	1,263,598
1844	377,002	874,850	365,911	13,087	1,630,850
1845	429,453	1,121,724	451,836	10,000	2,013,013
1846	517,116	1,295,928	518,389	12,572	2,344,005
1847	633,507	1,650,831	583,067	14,904	2,882,309
1848	670,321	1,714,365	685,196	19,356	3,089,238
1849	781,656	1,683,425	732,910	45,075	3,242,966
1850	690,456	1,782,936	827,823	57,684	3,358,899
1851	964,224	2,229,426	1,156,167	99,099	4,448,916
1852	1,072,136	2,517,493	1,284,500	119,342	4,993,471
1853	1,054,309	2,551,603	1,475,732	113,507	5,195,151
1854	1,207,186	2,957,670	1,603,473	234,090	6,002,334
1855	1,284,113	3,318,555	1,771,511	234,388	6.608,517
1856	1,351,970	3,289,585	1,972,581	313,444	6,927,580
1857	1,318,541	2,985,541	1,952,603	388,256	6,664,941
1858	1,380,030	2,902,821	2,186,094	370,424	6,759,369
1859	1,628,311	3,004,953	2,731,236	443,755	7,808,255
1860	1,821,674	3,270,516	2,941,817	479,116	8,513,123
1861	1,738,377	2,697,439	3,055,140	463,308	7,954,314
1862	1,351,054	2,890,593	3,145,770	481,990	7,875,412
1863	1,894,713	3,433,265	3,759,610	478,418	9,566,006
1864	2,054,669	3,642,218	3,960,836	519,752	10,177,475
1865	2,040,913	3,755,802	3,254,519	621,157	9,652,391
1866	2,179,364	4,957,180	4,736,616	830,722	12,703,882
1867	2,502,054	4,334,820	5,325,000	826,851	12,991,725
1868	2,507,582	4,414,356	5,990,813	921,381	13,834,132
1869	1,929,523	4,821,253	6,068,369	903,885	13,723,030
1870	3,172,916	3,853,016	7,825,128	998,839	15,849,899
1871	2,235,707	6,552,772	6,911,242	.....	15,699,721
1872	3,873,339	6,694,890	9,101,549	.....	19,669,778
1873	3,705,596	7,212,601	10,309,755	.....	21,227,952
1874	3,773,836	6,866,877	9,504,408	.....	20,145,121
1875	2,834,605	6,281,712	10,596,155	.....	19,712,472
1876	3,854,919	6,221,934	8,424,158	.....	18,501,011
1877	4,332,760	8,195,042	8,300,377	.....	20,828,179
1878	3,237,449	6,282,226	8,085,587	.....	17,605,262
1879	4,595,567	8,960,329	12,586,298	.....	26,142,689
1880	4,463,221	7,554,742	11,419,279	.....	23,437,242
1881	5,294,676	9,253,958	13,951,383	.....	28,500,016
1882	5,689,437	9,459,288	13,971,371	.....	29,120,096
1883	6,113,809	10,074,726	15,604,492	.....	31,793,029

the gathering shades he stumbled upon something which seemed to have a glistening appearance, that he was induced to pick up and carry home. This specimen was taken to Philadelphia, where an analysis showed it to be a good quality of anthracite coal. But, though coal was known to exist, no one knew how to use it. In 1812, Col. George Shoemaker, of Schuylkill County, took nine wagon loads to Philadelphia. But he was looked upon as an imposter for attempting to sell worthless stone for coal. He finally sold two loads for the cost of transportation, the remaining seven proving a complete loss. In 1812, White & Hazard, manufacturers of wire at the Falls of Schuylkill, induced an application to be made to the Legislature to incorporate a company for the improvement of the Schuylkill, urging as an inducement the importance it would have for transporting coal; whereupon, the Senator from that district, in his place, with an air of knowledge, asserted "that there was no coal there, that there was a kind of *black stone* which was called coal, but that it would not burn."

White & Hazard procured a cart load of Lehigh coal that cost them $1 a bushel, which was all wasted in a vain attempt to make it ignite. Another cart load was obtained, and a whole night spent in endeavoring to make a fire in the furnace, when the hands shut the furnace door and left the mill in despair. "Fortunately one of them left his jacket in the mill, and returning for it in about half an hour, noticed that the door was red hot, and upon opening it, was surprised at finding the whole furnace at a glowing white heat. The other hands were summoned, and four separate parcels of iron were heated and rolled by the same fire before it required renewing. The furnace was replenished, and as letting it alone had succeeded so well, it was concluded to try it again, and the experiment was repeated with the same result. The Lehigh Navigation Company and the Lehigh Coal Company were incorporated in 1818, which companies became the basis of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, incorporated in 1822. In 1820, coal was sent to Philadelphia by artificial navigation, but 365 tons glutted the market." In 1825, there were brought by the Schuylkill 5,378 tons. In 1826, by the Schuylkill, 16,265 tons, and by the Lehigh 31,280 tons. The stage of water being insufficient, dams and sluices were constructed near Mauch Chunk, in 1819, by which the navigation was improved. The coal boats used were great square arks, 16 to 18 feet wide, and 20 to 25 feet long. At first, two of these were joined together by hinges, to allow them to yield up and down in passing over the dams. Finally, as the boatmen became skilled in the navigation, several were joined, attaining a length of 180 feet. Machinery was used for jointing the planks, and so expert had the men become that five would build an ark and launch it in forty-five minutes. After reaching Philadelphia, these boats were taken to pieces, the plank sold, and the hinges sent back for constructing others. Such were the crude methods adopted in the early days for bringing coal to a market. In 1827, a railroad was commenced, which was completed in three months, nine miles in length. This, with the exception of one at Quincy, Mass., of four miles, built in 1826, was the first constructed in the United States. The descent was 100 feet per mile, and the coal descended by gravity in a half hour, and the cars were drawn back by mules, which rode down with the coal. "The mules cut a most grotesque figure, standing three or four together, in their cars, with their feeding troughs before them, apparently surveying with delight the scenery of the mountain; and though they preserve the most profound gravity, it is utterly impossible for the spectator to maintain his. It is said that the mules, having once experienced the comfort of riding down, regard it as a right, and neither mild nor severe measures

will induce them to descend in any other way." Bituminous coal was discovered and its qualities utilized not much earlier than the anthracite. A tract of coal land was taken up in Clearfield County in 1785, by Mr. S. Boyd, and in 1804 he sent an ark down the Susquehanna to Columbia, which caused much surprise to the inhabitants that "an article with which they were wholly unacquainted should be brought to their own doors."

During the administrations of George Wolf, elected in 1829, and Joseph Ritner, elected in 1835, a measure of great beneficence to the State was passed and brought into a good degree of successful operation—nothing less than a broad system of public education. Schools had been early established in Philadelphia, and parochial schools in the more populous portions of the State from the time of early settlement. In 1749, through the influence of Dr. Franklin, a charter was obtained for a "college, academy, and charity school of Pennsylvania," and from this time to the beginning of the present century, the friends of education were earnest in establishing colleges, the Colonial Government, and afterward the Legislature, making liberal grants from the revenues accruing from the sale of lands for their support, the university of Pennsylvania being chartered in 1752, Dickinson College in 1783, Franklin and Marshall College in 1787, and Jefferson College in 1802. Commencing near the beginning of this century, and continuing for over a period of thirty years, vigorous exertions were put forth to establish county academies. Charters were granted for these institutions at the county seats of forty-one counties, and appropriations were made of money, varying from $2,000 to $6,000, and in several instances of quite extensive land grants. In 1809, an act was passed for the education of the "poor, gratis." The Assessors in their annual rounds were to make a record of all such as were indigent, and pay for their education in the most convenient schools. But few were found among the spirited inhabitants of the commonwealth willing to admit that they were so poor as to be objects of charity.

By the act of April 1, 1834, a general system of education by common schools was established. Unfortunately it was complex and unwieldy. At the next session an attempt was made to repeal it, and substitute the old law of 1809 for educating the "poor, gratis," the repeal having been carried in the Senate. But through the appeals of Thaddeus Stevens, a man always in the van in every movement for the elevation of mankind, this was defeated. At the next session, 1836, an entirely new bill, discarding the objectionable features of the old one, was prepared by Dr. George Smith, of Delaware County, and adopted, and from this time forward has been in efficient operation. It may seem strange that so long a time should have elapsed before a general system of education should have been secured. But the diversity of origin and language, the antagonism of religious seats, the very great sparseness of population in many parts, made it impossible at an earlier day to establish schools. In 1854, the system was improved by engrafting upon it the feature of the County Superintendency, and in 1859 by providing for the establishment of twelve Normal Schools, in as many districts into which the State was divided, for the professional training of teachers.

CHAPTER XIV.

DAVID R. PORTER, 1839–45—FRANCIS R. SHUNK, 1845–48—WILLIAM F. JOHNSTONE 1848–52—WILLIAM BIGLER, 1852–55—JAMES POLLOCK, 1855–58—WILLIAM F. PACKER, 1858–61—ANDREW G. CURTIN, 1861–67—JOHN W. GEARY, 1867–73—JOHN F. HARTRANFT, 1873–78—HENRY F. HOYT, 1878–82—ROBERT E. PATTISON, 1882.

IN 1837, a convention assembled in Harrisburg, and subsequently in Philadelphia, for revising the constitution, which revision was adopted by a vote of the people. One of the chief objects of the change was the breaking up of what was known as "omnibus legislation," each bill being required to have but one distinct subject, to be definitely stated in the title. Much of the patronage of the Governor was taken from him, and he was allowed but two terms of three years in any nine years. The Senator's term was fixed at three years. The terms of Supreme Court Judges were limited to fifteen years, Common Pleas Judges to ten, and Associate Judges to five. A step backward was taken in limiting suffrage to *white* male citizens twenty-one years old, it having previously been extended to citizens irrespective of color. Amendments could be proposed once in five years, and if adopted by two successive Legislatures, and approved by a vote of the people, they became a part of the organic law.

At the opening of the gubernatorial term of David R. Porter, who was chosen in October, 1838, a civil commotion occurred known as the Buckshot War, which at one time threatened a sanguinary result. By the returns, Porter had some 5,000 majority over Ritner, but the latter, who was the incumbent, alleged frauds, and proposed an investigation and revision of the returns. Thomas H. Burrows was Secretary of State, and Chairman of the State Committee of the Anti-Masonic party, and in an elaborate address to the people setting forth the grievance, he closed with the expression "let us treat the election as if we had not been defeated." This expression gave great offense to the opposing party, the Democratic, and public feeling ran high before the meeting of the Legislature. Whether an investigation could be had would depend upon the political complexion of that body. The Senate was clearly Anti-Masonic, and the House would depend upon the Representatives of a certain district in Philadelphia, which embraced the Northern Liberties. The returning board of this district had a majority of Democrats, who proceeded to throw out the entire vote of Northern Liberties, for some alleged irregularities, and gave the certificate to Democrats. Whereupon, the minority of the board assembled, and counted the votes of the Northern Liberties, which gave the election to the Anti-Masonic candidates, and sent certificates accordingly. By right and justice, there is no doubt that the Anti-Masons were fairly elected. But the majority of a returning board alone have authority to make returns, and the Democrats had the certificates which bore *prima facie* evidence of being correct, and should have been received and transmitted to the House, where alone rested the authority to go behind the returns and investigate their correctness. But upon the meeting of the House the Secretary of the Commonwealth sent in the certificates of the minority of the returning board of the Northern Liberties district, which gave the majority to the Anti-Masons. But the Democrats were not disposed to submit, and

the consequence was that two delegations from the disputed district appeared, demanding seats, and upon the organization, two Speakers were elected and took the platform—Thomas S. Cunningham for the Anti-Masons, and William Hopkins for the Democrats. At this stage of the game, an infuriated lobby, collected from Philadelphia and surrounding cities, broke into the two Houses, and, interrupting all business, threatened the lives of members, and compelled them to seek safety in flight, when they took uncontrolled possession of the chambers and indulged in noisy and impassioned harangues. From the capitol, the mob proceeded to the court house, where a "committee of safety" was appointed. For several days the members dared not enter either House, and when one of the parties of the House attempted to assemble, the person who had been appointed to act as Speaker was forcibly ejected. All business was at an end, and the Executive and State Departments were closed. At this juncture, Gov. Ritner ordered out the militia, and at the same time called on the United States authorities for help. The militia, under Gens. Pattison and Alexander, came promptly to the rescue, but the President refused to furnish the National troops, though the United States storekeeper at the Frankford Arsenal turned over a liberal supply of ball and *buckshot* cartridges. The arrival of the militia only served to fire the spirit of the lobby, and they immediately commenced drilling and organizing, supplying themselves with arms and fixed ammunition. The militia authorities were, however, able to clear the capitol, when the two Houses assembled, and the Senate signified the willingness to recognize that branch of the House presided over by Mr. Hopkins. This ended the difficulty, and Gov. Porter was duly inaugurated.

Francis R. Shunk was chosen Governor in 1845, and during his term of office the war with Mexico occurred. Two volunteer regiments, one under command of Col. Wynkoop, and the other under Col. Roberts, subsequently Col. John W. Geary, were sent to the field, while the services of a much larger number were offered, but could not be received. Toward the close of his first term, having been reduced by sickness, and feeling his end approaching, Gov. Shunk resigned, and was succeeded by the Speaker of the Senate, William F. Johnston, who was duly chosen at the next annual election. During the administrations of William Bigler, elected in 1851, James Pollock in 1854, and William F. Packer in 1857, little beyond the ordinary course of events marked the history of the State. The lines of public works undertaken at the expense of the State were completed. Their cost had been enormous, and a debt was piled up against it of over $40,000,000. These works, vastly expensive, were still to operate and keep in repair, and the revenues therefrom failing to meet expectations, it was determined in the administration of Gov. Pollock to sell them to the highest bidder, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company purchasing them for the sum of $7,500,000.

In the administration of Gov. Packer, petroleum was first discovered in quantities in this country by boring into the bowels of the earth. From the earliest settlement of the country it was known to exist. As early as July 18, 1627, a French missionary, Joseph Delaroche Daillon, of the order of Recollets, described it in a letter published in 1632, in Segard's L'Histoire du Canada, and this description is confirmed by the journal of Charlevois, 1721. Fathers Dollier and Galinee, missionaries of the order of St. Sulpice, made a map of this section of country, which they sent to Jean Talon, Intendent of Canada, on the 10th of November, 1670, on which was marked at about the point where is now the town of Cuba, N. Y., "Fontaine de Bitume." The Earl of Belmont, Governor of New York, instructed his chief engineer, Wolfgang W. Romer, on September 3, 1700, in his visit to the Six Nations,

"To go and view a well or spring which is eight miles beyond the Seneks' farthest castle, which they have told me blazes up in a flame, when a lighted coale or firebrand is put into it; you will do well to taste the said water, and give me your opinion thereof, and bring with you some of it." Thomas Chabert de Joncaire, who died in September, 1740, is mentioned in the journal of Charlevoix of 1721 as authority for the existence of oil at the place mentioned above, and at points further south, probably on Oil Creek. The following account of an event occurring during the occupancy of this part of the State by the French is given as an example of the religious uses made of oil by the Indians, as these fire dances are understood to have been annually celebrated: "While descending the Allegheny, fifteen leagues below the mouth of the Connewango (Warren) and three above Fort Venango (Oil City), we were invited by the chief of the Senecas to attend a religious ceremony of his tribe. We landed and drew up our canoes on a point where a small stream entered the river. The tribe appeared unusually solemn. We marched up the stream about a half a league, where the company, a large band it appeared, had arrived some days before us. Gigantic hills begirt us on every side. The scene was really sublime. The great chief then recited the conquests and heroisms of their ancestors. The surface of the stream was covered with a thick scum, which burst into a complete conflagration. The oil had been gathered and lighted with a torch. At sight of the flames, the Indians gave forth a triumphant shout, and made the hills and valley re-echo again."

In nearly all geographies and notes of travel published during the early period of settlement, this oil is referred to, and on several maps the word petroleum appears opposite the mouth of Oil Creek. Gen. Washington, in his will, in speaking of his lands on the Great Kanawha, says: "The tract of which the 125 acres is a moiety, was taken up by Gen. Andrew Lewis and myself, for and on account of a bituminous spring which it contains of so inflammable a nature as to burn as freely as spirits, and is as nearly difficult to extinguish." Mr. Jefferson, in his Notes on Virginia, also gives an account of a burning spring on the lower grounds of the Great Kanawha. This oil not only seems to have been known, but to have been systematically gathered in very early times. Upon the flats a mile or so below the city of Titusville are many acres of cradle holes dug out and lined with split logs, evidently constructed for the purpose of gathering it. The fact that the earliest inhabitants could never discover any stumps from which these logs were cut, and the further fact that trees are growing of giant size in the midst of these cradles, are evidences that they must have been operated long ago. It could not have been the work of any of the nomadic Indian tribes found here at the coming of the white man, for they were never known to undertake any enterprise involving so much labor, and what could they do with the oil when obtained.

The French could hardly have done the work, for we have no account of the oil having been obtained in quantities, or of its being transported to France. May this not have been the work of the Mound-Builders, or of colonies from Central America? When the writer first visited these pits, in 1855, he found a spring some distance below Titusville, on Oil Creek, where the water was conducted into a trough, from which, daily, the oil, floating on its surface, was taken off by throwing a woolen blanket upon it, and then wringing it into a tub, the clean wool absorbing the oil and rejecting the water, and in this way a considerable quantity was obtained.

In 1859, Mr. E. L. Drake, at first representing a company in New York, commenced drilling near the spot where this tub was located, and when the company would give him no more money, straining his own resources, and his

credit with his friends almost to the breaking point, and when about to give up in despair, finally struck a powerful current of pure oil. From this time forward, the territory down the valley of Oil Creek and up all its tributaries was rapidly acquired and developed for oil land. In some places, the oil was sent up with immense force, at the rate of thousands of barrels each day, and great trouble was experienced in bringing it under control and storing it. In some cases, the force of the gas was so powerful on being accidentally fired, as to defy all approach for many days, and lighted up the forests at night with billows of light.

The oil has been found in paying quantities in McKean, Warren, Forest, Crawford, Venango, Clarion, Butler and Armstrong Counties, chiefly along the upper waters of the Allegheny River and its tributary, the Oil Creek. It was first transported in barrels, and teams were kept busy from the first dawn until far into the night. As soon as practicable, lines of railway were constructed from nearly all the trunk lines. Finally barrels gave place to immense iron tanks riveted upon cars, provided for the escape of the gases, and later great pipe lines were extended from the wells to the seaboard, and to the Great Lakes, through which the fluid is forced by steam to its distant destinations Its principal uses are for illumination and lubricating, though many of its products are employed in the mechanic arts, notably for dyeing, mixing of paints, and in the practice of medicine. Its production has grown to be enormous, and seems as yet to show no sign of diminution. We give an exhibit of the annual production since its discovery, compiled for this work by William H. Siviter, editor of the Oil City *Derrick*, which is the acknowledged authority on oil matters:

Production of the Pennsylvania Oil Fields, compiled from the *Derrick's* Hand-book, December, 1883:

	Barrels.		Barrels.
1859	82,000	1873	9,849,508
1860	500,000	1874	11,102,114
1861	2,113,000	1875	8,948,749
1862	3,056,606	1876	9,142,940
1863	2,611,399	1877	13,052,713
1864	2,116,182	1878	15,011,425
1865	3,497,712	1879	20,085,716
1866	3,597,512	1880	24,788,950
1867	3,347,306	1881	29,674,458
1868	3,715,741	1882	31,789,190
1869	4,186,475	1883	24,385,966
1870	5,308,046		
1871	5,278,076	A grand total of	243,749,558
1872	6,505,774		

In the fall of 1860, Andrew G. Curtin was elected Governor of Pennsylvania, and Abraham Lincoln President of the United States. An organized rebellion, under the specious name of secession, was thereupon undertaken, embracing parts of fifteen States, commonly designated the Slave States, and a government established under the name of the Confederate States of America, with an Executive and Congress, which commenced the raising of troops for defense.

On the 12th of April, an attack was made upon a small garrison of United States troops shut up in Fort Sumter. This was rightly interpreted as the first act in a great drama. On the 15th, the President summoned 75,000 volunteers to vindicate the national authority, calling for sixteen regiments from Pennsylvania, and urging that two be sent forward immediately, as the capital was without defenders.

The people of the State, having no idea that war could be possible, had no

preparation for the event, There chanced at the time to be five companies in a tolerable state of organization. These were the Ringold Light Artillery, Capt. McKnight, of Reading; the Logan Guards, Capt. Selheimer, of Lewistown; the Washington Artillery, Capt. Wren, and the National Light Infantry, Capt. McDonald, of Pottsville; and the Allen Rifles, Capt. Yeager, of Allentown.

On the 18th, in conjunction with a company of fifty regulars, on their way from the West to Fort McHenry, under command of Capt. Pemberton, afterward Lieut. Gen. Pemberton, of the rebel army, these troops moved by rail for Washington. At Baltimore, they were obliged to march two miles through a jeering and insulting crowd. At the center of the city, the regulars filed off toward Fort McHenry, leaving the volunteers to pursue their way alone, when the crowd of maddened people were excited to redoubled insults. In the whole battalion there was not a charge of powder; but a member of the Logan Guards, who chanced to have a box of percussion caps in his pocket, had distributed them to his comrades, who carried their pieces capped and half cocked, creating the impression that they were loaded and ready for service. This ruse undoubtedly saved the battalion from the murderous assault made upon the Massachusetts Sixth on the following day. Before leaving, they were pelted with stones and billets of wood while boarding the cars; but, fortunately, none were seriously injured, and the train finally moved away and reached Washington in safety, the first troops to come to the unguarded and imperiled capital.

Instead of sixteen, twenty-five regiments were organized for the three months' service from Pennsylvania. Judging from the threatening attitude assumed by the rebels across the Potomac that the southern frontier would be constantly menaced, Gov. Curtin sought permission to organize a select corps, to consist of thirteen regiments of infantry, one of cavalry, and one of artillery, and to be known as the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, which the Legislature, in special session, granted. This corps of 15,000 men was speedily raised, and the intention of the State authorities was to keep this body permamently within the limits of the Commonwealth for defense. But at the time of the First Bull Run disaster in July, 1861, the National Government found itself without troops to even defend the capital, the time of the three months' men being now about to expire, and at its urgent call this fine body was sent forward and never again returned for the execution of the duty for which it was formed, having borne the brunt of the fighting on many a hard-fought field during the three years of its service.

In addition to the volunteer troops furnished in response to the several calls of the President, upon the occasion of the rebel invasion of Maryland in September, 1862, Gov. Curtin called 50,000 men for the emergency, and though the time was very brief, 25,000 came, were organized under command of Gen. John F. Reynolds, and were marched to the border. But the battle of Antietam, fought on the 17th of September, caused the enemy to beat a hasty retreat, and the border was relieved when the emergency troops were disbanded and returned to their homes. On the 19th of October, Gen. J. E. B. Stewart, of the rebel army, with 1,800 horsemen under command of Hampton, Lee and Jones, crossed the Potomac and made directly for Chambersburg, arriving after dark. Not waiting for morning to attack, he sent in a flag of truce demanding the surrender of the town. There were 275 Union soldiers in hospital, whom he paroled. During the night, the troopers were busy picking up horses—swapping horses perhaps it should be called—and the morning saw them early on the move. The rear guard gave notice before leaving to re-

move all families from the neighborhood of the public buildings, as they intended to fire them. There was a large amount of fixed ammunition in them, which had been captured from Longstreet's train, besides Government stores of shoes, clothing and muskets. At 11 o'clock the station house, round house, railroad machine shops and warehouses were fired and consigned to destruction. The fire department was promptly out; but it was dangerous to approach the burning buildings on account of the ammunition, and all perished.

The year 1862 was one of intense excitement and activity. From about the 1st of May, 1861, to the end of 1862, there were recruited in the State of Pennsylvania, one hundred and eleven regiments, including eleven of cavalry and three of artillery, for three years' service; twenty-five regiments for three months; seventeen for nine months; fifteen of drafted militia; and twenty-five called out for the emergency, an aggregate of one hundred and ninety-three regiments—a grand total of over 200,000 men—a great army in itself.

In June, 1863, Gen. Robert E. Lee, with his entire army of Northern Virginia, invaded Pennsylvania. The Army of the Potomac, under Gen. Joseph Hooker, followed. The latter was superseded on the 28th of June by Gen. George G. Meade. The vanguards of the army met a mile or so out of Gettysburg on the Chambersburg pike on the morning of the 1st of July. Hill's corps of the rebel army was held in check by the sturdy fighting of a small division of cavalry under Gen. Buford until 10 o'clock, when Gen. Reynolds came to his relief with the First Corps. While bringing his forces into action, Reynolds was killed, and the command devolved on Gen. Abner Doubleday, and the fighting became terrible, the Union forces being greatly outnumbered. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the Eleventh Corps, Gen. O. O. Howard, came to the support of the First. But now the corps of Ewell had joined hands with Hill, and a full two-thirds of the entire rebel army was on the field, opposed by only the two weak Union corps, in an inferior position. A sturdy fight was however maintained until 5 o'clock, when the Union forces withdrew through the town, and took position upon rising ground covering the Baltimore pike. During the night the entire Union army came up, with the exception of the Sixth Corps, and took position, and at 2 o'clock in the morning Gen. Meade and staff came on the field. During the morning hours, and until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the two armies were getting into position for the desperate struggle. The Third Corps, Gen. Sickles, occupied the extreme left, his corps abutting on the Little Round Top at the Devil's Den, and reaching, *en echelon*, through the rugged ground to the Peach Orchard, and thence along the Emmettsburg pike, where it joined the Second Corps, Gen. Hancock, reaching over Cemetery Hill, the Eleventh Corps, Gen. Howard, the First, Gen. Doubleday, and the Twelfth, Gen. Slocum, reaching across Culp's Hill—the whole crescent shape. To this formation the rebel army conformed, Longstreet opposite the Union left, Hill opposite the center, and Ewell opposite the Union right. At 4 P. M. the battle was opened by Longstreet, on the extreme left of Sickles, and the fighting became terrific, the rebels making strenuous efforts to gain Little Round Top. But at the opportune moment a part of the Fifth Corps, Gen. Sykes, was brought upon that key position, and it was saved to the Union side. The slaughter in front of Round Top at the wheat-field and the Peach Orchard was fearful. The Third Corps was driven back from its advanced position, and its commander, Gen. Sickles, was wounded, losing a leg. In a more contracted position, the Union line was made secure, where it rested for the night. Just at dusk, the Louisiana Tigers, some 1,800 men, made a desperate charge on Cemetery Hill, emerging suddenly from a hillock

just back of the town. The struggle was desperate, but the Tigers being weakened by the fire of the artillery, and by the infantry crouching behind the stone wall, the onset was checked, and Carroll's brigade, of the Second Corps, coming to the rescue, they were finally beaten back, terribly decimated. At about the same time, a portion of Ewell's corps made an advance on the extreme Union right, at a point where the troops had been withdrawn to send to the support of Sickles, and unopposed, gained the extremity of Culp's Hill, pushing through nearly to the Baltimore pike, in dangerous proximity to the reserve artillery and trains, and even the headquarters of the Union commander. But in their attempt to roll up the Union right they were met by Green's brigade of the Twelfth Corps, and by desperate fighting their further progress was stayed. Thus ended the battle of the second day. The Union left and right had been sorely jammed and pushed back.

At 4 o'clock on the morning of the 3d of July, Gen. Geary, who had been ordered away to the support of Sickles, having returned during the night and taken position on the right of Green, opened the battle for the recovery of his lost breastworks on the right of Culp's Hill. Until 10 o'clock, the battle raged with unabated fury. The heat was intolerable, and the sulphurous vapor hung like a pall over the combatants, shutting out the light of day. The fighting was in the midst of the forest, and the echoes resounded with fearful distinctness. The Twelfth Corps was supported by portions of the Sixth, which had now come up. At length the enemy, weakened and finding themselves overborne on all sides, gave way, and the Union breastworks were reoccupied and the Union right made entirely secure. Comparative quiet now reigned on either side until 2 o'clock in the afternoon, in the meantime both sides bringing up fresh troops and repairing damages. The rebel leader having brought his best available artillery in upon his right center, suddenly opened with 150 pieces a concentric fire upon the devoted Union left center, where stood the troops of Hancock and Doubleday and Sickles. The shock was terrible. Rarely has such a cannonade been known on any field. For nearly two hours it was continued. Thinking that the Union line had been broken and demoralized by this fire, Longstreet brought out a fresh corps of some 18,000 men, under Pickett, and charged full upon the point which had been the mark for the cannonade. As soon as this charging column came into view, the Union artillery opened upon it from right and left and center, and rent it with fearful effect. When come within musket range, the Union troops, who had been crouching behind slight pits and a low stone wall, poured in a most murderous fire. Still the rebels pushed forward with a bold face, and actually crossed the Union lines and had their hands on the Union guns. But the slaughter was too terrible to withstand. The killed and wounded lay scattered over all the plain. Many were gathered in as prisoners. Finally, the remnant staggered back, and the battle of Gettysburg was at an end.

Gathering all in upon his fortified line, the rebel chieftain fell to strengthening it, which he held with a firm hand. At night-fall, he put his trains with the wounded upon the retreat. During the 4th, great activity in building works was manifest, and a heavy skirmish line was kept well out, which resolutely met any advance of Union forces. The entire fighting force of the rebel army remained in position behind their breastworks on Oak Ridge, until nightfall of the 4th, when, under cover of darkness, it was withdrawn, and before morning was well on its way to Williamsport. The losses on the Union side were 2,834 killed, 13,709 wounded, and 6,643 missing, an aggregate of 23,186. Of the losses of the enemy, no adequate returns were made. Meade

reports 13,621 prisoners taken, and the losses by killed and wounded must have been greater than on the Union side. On the rebel side, Maj. Gens. Hood, Pender, Trimble and Heth were wounded, Pender mortally. Brig. Gens. Barksdale and Garnett were killed, and Semms mortally wounded. Brig. Gens. Kemper, Armistead, Scales, G. T. Anderson, Hampton, J. M. Jones and Jenkins were wounded; Archer was taken prisoner and Pettigrew was wounded and subsequently killed at Falling Waters. In the Union army, Maj. Gen. Reynolds and Brig. Gens. Vincent, Weed, Willard and Zook were killed. Maj. Gens. Sickles, Hancock, Doubleday, Gibbon, Barlow, Warren and Butterfield, and Brig. Gens. Graham, Paul, Stone, Barnes and Brooke were wounded. A National Cemetery was secured on the center of the field, where, as soon as the weather would permit, the dead were gathered and carefully interred. Of the entire number interred, 3,512, Maine had 104; New Hampshire, 49; Vermont, 61; Massachusetts, 159; Rhode Island, 12; Connecticut, 22; New York, 867; New Jersey, 78; Pennsylvania, 534; Delaware, 15; Maryland, 22; West Virginia, 11; Ohio, 131; Indiana, 80; Illinois, 6; Michigan, 171; Wisconsin, 73; Minnesota, 52; United States Regulars, 138; unknown, 979. In the center of the field, a noble monument has been erected, and on the 19th of November, 1864, the ground was formally dedicated, when the eminent orator, Edward Everett, delivered an oration, and President Lincoln delivered the following dedicatory address:

"Fourscore and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle field of that war. We are met to dedicate a portion of it as the final resting place of those who here gave their lives that this nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work that they have thus far so nobly carried on. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to the cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain; that the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom, and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

So soon as indications pointed to a possible invasion of the North by the rebel army under Gen. Lee, the State of Pennsylvania was organized in two military departments, that of the Susquehanna, to the command of which Darius N. Couch was assigned, with headquarters at Harrisburg, and that of the Monongahela, under W. T. H. Brooks, with headquarters at Pittsburgh. Urgent calls for the militia were made, and large numbers in regiments, in companies, in squadrons came promptly at the call to the number of over 36,000 men, who were organized for a period of ninety days. Fortifications were thrown up to cover Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, and the troops were moved to threatened points. But before they could be brought into action, the great decisive conflict had been fought, and the enemy driven from northern soil. Four regiments under Gen. Brooks were moved into Ohio to aid in arresting a raid undertaken by John Morgan, who, with 2,000 horse and four guns, had crossed the Ohio River for a diversion in favor of Lee.

In the beginning of July, 1864, Gen. Early invaded Maryland, and made his way to the threshold of Washington. Fearing another invasion of the State, Gov. Curtin called for volunteers to serve for 100 days. Gen. Couch was still at the head of the department of the Susquehanna, and six regiments and six companies were organized, but as fast as organized they were called to the front, the last regiment leaving the State on the 29th of July. On the evening of this day, Gens. McCausland, Bradley Johnson and Harry Gilmore, with 3,000 mounted men and six guns, crossed the Potomac, and made their way to Chambersburg. Another column of 3,000, under Vaughn and Jackson advanced to Hagerstown, and a third to Leitersburg. Averell, with a small force, was at Hagerstown, but finding himself over-matched withdrew through Greencastle to Mount Hope. Lieut. McLean, with fifty men in front of McCausland, gallantly kept his face to the foe, and checked the advance at every favorable point. On being apprised of their coming, the public stores at Chambersburg were moved northward. At six A. M., McCausland opened his batteries upon the town, but, finding it unprotected, took possession. Ringing the court house bell to call the people together, Capt. Fitzhugh read an order to the assembly, signed by Gen. Jubal Early, directing the command to proceed to Chambersburg and demand $100,000 in gold, or $500,000 in greenbacks, and, if not paid, to burn the town. While this parley was in progress, hats, caps, boots, watches, clothing and valuables were unceremoniously appropriated, and purses demanded at the point of the bayonet. As money was not in hand to meet so unexpected a draft, the torch was lighted. In less than a quarter of an hour from the time the first match was applied, the whole business part of the town was in flames. No notice was given for removing the women and children and sick. Burning parties were sent into each quarter of the town, which made thorough work. With the exception of a few houses upon the outskirts, the whole was laid in ruins. Retiring rapidly, the entire rebel command recrossed the Potomac before any adequate force could be gathered to check its progress.

The whole number of soldiers recruited under the various calls for troops from the State of Pennsylvania was 366,000. By authority of the commonwealth, in 1866, the commencement was made of the publication of a history of these volunteer organizations, embracing a brief historical account of the part taken by each regiment and independent body in every battle in which it was engaged, with the name, rank, date of muster, period for which he enlisted, casualties, and fate of every officer and private. This work was completed in 1872, in five imperial octavo volumes of over 1,400 pages each.

In May, 1861, the Society of the Cincinnati of Pennsylvania, an organization of the officers of the Revolutionary war and their descendants, donated $500 toward arming and equipping troops. By order of the Legislature, this sum was devoted to procuring flags for the regiments, and each organization that went forth, was provided with one emblazoned with the arms of the commonwealth. These flags, seamed and battle stained, were returned at the close of the war, and are now preserved in a room devoted to the purpose in the State capitol—precious emblems of the daring and suffering of that great army that went forth to uphold and maintain the integrity of the nation.

When the war was over, the State undertook the charge of providing for all soldiers' orphans in schools located in different parts of its territory, furnishing food, clothing, instruction and care, until they should be grown to manhood and womanhood. The number thus gathered and cared for has been some 7,500 annually, for a period of nineteen years, at an average annual expense of some $600,000.

At the election in 1866, John W. Geary, a veteran General of the late war, was chosen Governor. During his administration, settlements were made with the General Government, extraordinary debts incurred during the war were paid, and a large reduction of the old debt of $40,000,000 inherited from the construction of the canals, was made. A convention for a revision of the constitution was ordered by act of April 11, 1872. This convention assembled in Harrisburg November 13, and adjourned to meet in Philadelphia, where it convened on the 7th of January, 1873, and the instrument framed was adopted on the 18th of December, 1873. By its provisions, the number of Senators was increased from thirty-three to fifty, and Representatives from 100 to 201, subject to further increase in proportion to increase of population; biennial, in place of annual sessions; making the term of Supreme Court Judges twenty-one in place of fifteen years; remanding a large class of legislation to the action of the courts; making the term of Governor four years in place of three, and prohibiting special legislation, were some of the changes provided for.

In January, 1873, John F. Hartranft became Governor, and at the election in 1878, Henry F. Hoyt was chosen Governor, both soldiers of the late war. In the summer of 1877, by concert of action of the employes on the several lines of railway in the State, trains were stopped and travel and traffic were interrupted for several days together. At Pittsburgh, conflicts occurred between the railroad men and the militia, and a vast amount of property was destroyed. The opposition to the local military was too powerful to be controlled, and the National Government was appealed to for aid. A force of regulars was promptly ordered out, and the rioters finally quelled. Unfortunately, Gov. Hartranft was absent from the State at the time of the troubles.

At the election in 1882, Robert E. Pattison was chosen Governor, who is the present incumbent. The Legislature, which met at the opening of 1883, having adjourned after a session of 156 days, without passing a Congressional apportionment bill, as was required, was immediately reconvened in extra session by the Governor, and remained in session until near the close of the year, from June 1 to December 5, without coming to an agreement upon a bill, and finally adjourned without having passed one. This protracted sitting is in marked contrast to the session of that early Assembly in which an entire constitution and laws of the province were framed and adopted in the space of three days.

TABLE SHOWING THE VOTE FOR GOVERNORS OF PENNSYLVANIA SINCE THE ORGANIZATION OF THE STATE.

1790.

Thomas Mifflin	27,725
Arthur St. Clair	2,802

1793.

Thomas Mifflin	18,590
F. A. Muhlenberg	10,706

1796.

Thomas Mifflin	30,020
F. A. Muhlenberg	1,011

1799.

Thomas McKean	38,036
James Ross	32,641

1802.

Thomas McKean	47,879
James Ross, of Pittsburgh	9,499
James Ross	7,588

1808.

Simon Snyder	67,975
James Ross	39,575
John Spayd	4,006
W. Shields	2
Charles Nice	1
Jack Ross	2
W. Tilghman	1

1811.

Simon Snyder	52,319
William Tighlman	3,609
Scatt'ring,no record for whom	1,675

1814.

Simon Snyder	51,099
Isaac Wayne	29,566
G. Lattimer	910
J. R. Rust	4

1817.

William Findlay	66,331
Joseph Hiester	59,272
Moses Palmer	1
Aaron Hanson	1
John Seffer	1
Seth Thomas	1
Nicholas Wiseman	3
Benjamin R. Morgan	2
William Tilghman	1
Andrew Gregg	1

1820.

Joseph Hiester	67,905
William Findlay	66,300
Scattering (no record)	21

1823.

J. Andrew Shulze	81,751
Andrew Gregg	64,151
Andrew Shulze	112
John Andrew Shulze	7,311
Andrew Gragg	53
Andrew Greg	1
John A. Shulze	754
Nathaniel B. Boileau	3
Capt. Glosseader	3
John Gassender	1
Isaac Wayne	1
George Bryan	1

1826.

J. Andrew Shulze	72,710
John Sergeant	1,175
Scattering (no record)	1,174

1829.

George Wolf	78,219
Joseph Ritner	51,776
George E. Baum	6
Frank R. Williams	3

1832.

George Wolf	91,335
Joseph Ritner	88,165

1835.

Joseph Ritner	94,023
George Wolf	65,804
Henry A. Muhlenberg	40,586

1838.

David R. Porter	127,827
Joseph Ritner	122,321

1841.

David R. Porter	136,504
John Banks	113,473
T. J. Lemoyne	763
George F. Horton	18
Samuel L. Carpenter	4
Ellis Lewis	1

1844.

Francis R. Shunk	160,322
Joseph Markle	156,040
Julius J. Lemoyne	10
John Haney	2
James Page	1

1847.

Francis R. Shunk	146,081
James Irvin	128,148
Emanuel C. Reigart	11,247
F. J. Lemoyne	1,861
George M. Keim	1
Abijah Morrison	3

1848.

William F. Johnston	168,522
Morris Longstreth	168,225
E. B. Gazzam	48
Scattering (no record)	24

1851.

William Bigler	186,489
William F. Johnston	178,034
Kimber Cleaver	1,850

1854.

James Pollock	203,822
William Bigler	166,991
B. Rush Bradford	2,194

1857.

William F. Packer	188,846
David Wilmot	149,139
Isaac Hazlehurst	28,168
James Pollock	1
George R. Barret	1
William Steel	1
F. P. Swartz	1
Samuel McFarland	1
George F. Horton	7

1860.

Andrew G. Curtin	262,346
Henry D. Foster	230,239

1863.

A. G. Curtin	269,506
George W. Woodward	254,171
John Hickman	1
Thomas M. Howe	1

1866.

John W. Geary	307,274
Hiester Clymer	290,097
Giles Lewis	7

1869.

John W. Geary	290,552
Asa Packer	285,956
W. D. Kelly	1
W. J. Robinson	1

1872.

John F. Hartranft	353,387
Charles R. Buckalen	317,760
S. B. Chase	1,197
William P. Schell	12

1875.

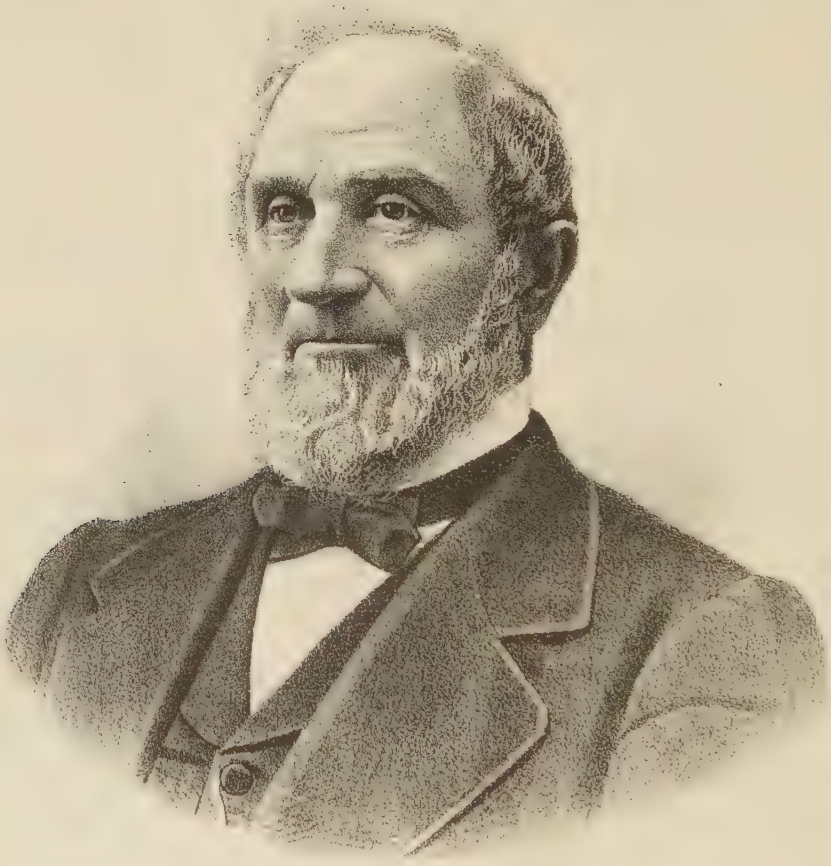
John F. Hartranft	304,175
Cyrus L. Pershing	292,145
R. Audley Brown	13,244
James S. Negley	1
Phillip Wendle	1
J. W. Brown	1
G. F. Reinhard	1
G. D. Coleman	1
James Staples	1
Richard Vaux	1
Craig Biddle	1
Francis W. Hughes	1
Henry C. Tyler	1
W. D. Brown	1
George V. Lawrence	1
A. L. Brown	1

1878.

H. M. Hoyt	319,490
Andrew H. Dill	297,137
Samuel R. Mason	81,758
Franklin H. Lane	3,753
S. Matson	2
John McKee	1
D. Kirk	1
R. L. Miller	1
J. H. Hopkins	1
A. G. Williams	1
Samuel H. Lane	1
John Fertig	1
James Musgrove	1
Silas M. Baily	1
A. S. Post	9
C. A. Cornen	3
Seth Yocum	1
Edward E. Orvis	1

1882.

Robert E. Pattison	355,791
James A. Beaver	315,589
John Stewart	43,743
Thomas A. Armstrong	23,996
Alfred C. Pettit	5,196
E. E. Pattison	1
R. E. Beaver	1
J. H. Hopkins	1
W. H. Hope	1
R. H. Patterson	2
— Stewart	2
J. A. Brown	1
R. Smith	1
— Cameron	1
James McNalis	1
T. A. Armstrong	1
Thomas Armstrong	16
R. E. Pattison	1
William N. Drake	1
John McCleery	2
John A. Stewart	1
G. A. Grow	1



Jefferson Davis

PART II.

HISTORY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

BY R. C. BROWN.

HISTORY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

CHAPTER I.

ARCHÆOLOGY—THE MOUND BUILDERS—EVIDENCES OF A VANISHED RACE—DELAWARE TRADITION OF THE ALLEGEWI—PRE-HISTORIC REMAINS IN CRAWFORD COUNTY—STONE MOUND NEAR OIL CREEK—OLD MEADOWS ON FRENCH CREEK, AND INDIAN TRADITION REGARDING THEM—CIRCULAR FORTS AND MOUNDS BELOW MEADVILLE—INDIAN GRAVES AND RELICS—DESCRIPTION OF A LARGE FORT NEAR PYMATUNING SWAMP—NUMEROUS ARTIFICIAL OIL PITS FOUND BY THE PIONEERS IN THE VICINITY OF TITUSVILLE—MOUNDS IN OTHER PORTIONS OF THE COUNTY—ARCHÆOLOGICAL CONCLUSIONS REGARDING THESE MONUMENTS OF ANTIQUITY.

ONLY the earth monuments enclosing a few relics of rude art, and the last lingering remains of mortality—crumbling skeletons which literally turn to dust as the places of their sepulture are invaded—have endured to silently attest in the nineteenth century, the existence of a vast and vanished race, a people whose origin, nature, progress and ultimate destiny are shrouded in a gloom that cannot be dispelled, and only feebly pierced by a few faint rays of light. Strive as we may by what little there is of the accumulated light of study, we can know but little of the people who occupied this continent prior to the age at which its written history begins.

The race to which we ascribe the name of Mound Builders is one of which no chapter of history can be produced. No record has been left; no misty legends or traditions have been handed down to give us an idea of the character and condition of this ancient race. We can only gain an uncertain and unsatisfying glance behind the great black curtain of oblivion, but upon the vastest questions concerning the people can obtain no absolute knowledge. We may search the silent monuments that stud a thousand landscapes lying between the Alleghenies and the Mississippi, and stretching from the great lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, and deduce conclusions from the facts discovered, in regard to the Mound Builders, and to some extent of their degree of civilization; but as to the great questions, whence did they come? and whither did they go? we can only indulge in speculations, fanciful, fascinating and futile.

It is certainly a matter of gratulation to archæologists, that so many waymarks and traces of this lost race yet remain, but which, it is to be regretted, are, to a large extent, in a state of mutilation and partial ruin, and rapidly tending to utter extinction through iconoclastic wantonness and the operations of the agriculturist; also from the devastating effects of the elements, and the destructive tendencies of the great destroyer—Time.

When the whites first came in contact with the Lenni Lenape tribe of Indians, a tradition existed among them of their having migrated from the far West, and on reaching the Mississippi discovered that the country east of that river was inhabited by a powerful race, whom they called "Tallegawe" or

"Allegewi." The tradition stated that the Allegewi were living in large towns situated along the principal streams, and protected by fortifications. They at first refused to allow the Lenapes to cross the Mississippi, but finally consented, on condition that they would proceed to the country east of that then occupied by the Allegewi. On seeing the great strength of the Lenapes, the Allegewi became alarmed, and attacked and killed those that had crossed over, warning the others to remain west of the river. The Lenapes sought the assistance of the Mengwe, a tribe living northwest of the Mississippi, and the two nations agreed to conquer and divide the country between them. A long and bloody war ensued, lasting many years, but at length the Allegewi were conquered, the survivors driven far toward the south, and finally lost sight of among the southern nations. The Lenapes and Mengwe gradually moved eastward, conquering as they went. The former became known on the discovery of America as the Delawares, and the latter as the Mingoes, or Iroquois, but each was divided into several branches or tribes, which assumed different names. Some writers have advanced the proposition that the Allegewi are the vanished race called Mound Builders, yet all the evidence we have of the existence of either are the fortifications and earth monuments of the latter, and the Delaware tradition concerning the conquest of the former.

Many evidences of the pre-historic age existed in various portions of Crawford County for years after the first settlers built their cabins along its beautiful streams. A tradition was extant among the Indians, who temporarily occupied the valley of French Creek when these settlements were made, that those traces of a higher civilization were the works of another and totally different race of people to them. In 1830 the New York *Journal of Commerce* published the following notice of a mound located in the southeastern part of the county:

"On an extensive plain near Oil Creek, there is a vast mound of stones, containing many hundred thousand cart loads. This pyramid has stood through so many ages that it is now covered with soil, and from its top rises a noble pine tree, the roots of which, running down the sides, fasten themselves in the earth below. The stones are, many of them, so large that two men can scarcely move them, and are unlike any in the neighborhood; nor are there quarries near, from which so large a quantity could be taken. The stones were, perhaps, collected from the surface, and the mound one of the many that have been raised by the ancient race which preceded the Indians, whom the Europeans have not known. These monuments are numerous further north and east, and in the south and west are far greater, more artificial and imposing."

In 1846, Alfred Huidekoper, Esq. of Meadville, wrote an article for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, entitled "Incidents in the Early History of Crawford County, Pennsylvania," which was published in 1850, among other memoirs of the society, and a copy presented to Mr. Huidekoper. He has kindly and freely given the use of this valuable work, and from his article we take the following extracts relative to the pre-historic occupancy of this county:

"When first visited by the whites in 1787, in the valley of French Creek, were old meadows destitute of trees, and covered with long, wild grass and herbage resembling the prairies; but by whom those lands were originally cleared, will probably forever remain a matter of uncertainty.

"The Indians alleged that the work had not been done by them; but a tradition among them attributed it to a larger and more powerful race of inhabitants, who had pre-occupied the country. Whether some far-straying Frenchman, or straggling Spaniard, whose wanderings have been unrecorded, made

his first opening in the primeval forest, or whether some semi-civilized tribe of Indians from the central regions of America, leaving the sunny south, pushed their canoes up the Ohio and Allegheny, and settling in the western regions of Pennsylvania, were finally subdued and destroyed by the fiercer and more warlike tribes of the North, may be an interesting subject for speculation ; but the records are too ambiguous and indistinct to solve the questions which they raise."

Further on in the same article he says: "There were originally two circular forts about a mile below the present village of Meadville: the one in the valley, on the farm of Mr. Taylor Randolph, and the other a quarter of a mile below, on the bluff point of a high knoll, where a small stream puts into the creek, or now into the canal. The plow and annual tillage of the soil have now destroyed them. There was also a mound still to be seen a short distance above the fort, which stood in the plain. It is now nothing but a smooth eminence, some two or three feet high, and extending from north to south some fifteen or twenty feet, and about twice as much from east to west. It is described, however, by Mr. Esaac Randolph, one of the oldest settlers, on whose farm it stands, as having been composed originally of two mounds connected by a narrow neck between them. The material of one of the mounds he represents as having been of gravel, and the other of alluvial earth. The ground around the mound is alluvial, without stone, and it is evident the material was carried some distance to construct the mound, as there was no ditch or excavation near it from which it could have been taken. The mound stands some thirty rods from the stream, where gravel is abundant.

"The fields in the neighborhood abound with small pieces of Indian crockery, resembling common earthenware, except that it is not glazed or so well burned.

"In plowing in the neighborhood of the above mound some years ago an Indian grave was discovered, covered with a large stone, under which, among the bones, were found some interesting relics. Among the rest, some sharp instruments of agate or other hard stone, shaped in the form of the segment of a circle, from three to five inches long, and having one edge, and the points very sharp; they were probably used either for surgical instruments or for tattooing, etc. Indian arrow-heads of flint, and axes of greenstone, are frequently found in the flats along the creek, and occasionally the remains of pipes for smoking carved out of stone. A small idol, carved in the form of an owl, out of soapstone, was found a few years since and is now in the cabinet of Mr. Frederick Huidekoper, in Meadville. A small turtle, either a petrifaction or a relic of Indian sculpture, has lately been discovered in excavating for a furnace on the Big Sugar Creek; it is now in the possession of Mr. J. Russell, at Russellville, in Venango County. The fossil is a siliceous stone, and was unfortunately and wantonly broken by the laborers who exhumed it; the pieces, however, have been obtained and preserved by Mr. Russell. The head and front part of the body are entire; the head a little distorted, but very distinct. From a hasty inspection I had of it in passing Mr. Russell's, a few days since, I should be inclined to believe it a specimen of Indian sculpture, and an idol of the Delaware, or some other tribe of Indians, who regarded the turtle as sacred.

"The most perfect of the Indian fortifications in the county is a circular fort, still in a tolerable state of preservation, which stands on a point of land projecting into the Pymatuning Swamp, in North Shenango Township. The area of the fort includes some two acres of ground, now covered with large timber. The breastwork is about three feet high, and the fosse from two to

three feet deep; there are from four to five places of egress from the fort, where there are intervals in the ditch. The breastwork has probably originally been fortified with a stockade, and the portals occupied with gates. On the land side, or the side opposite to the swamp, is another breastwork, some twenty or thirty yards from the fort, and now less distinct.

"In the interior of the fort there are a great number of places where there is a slight depression in the surface, as though a hole had been dug some two feet in diameter. In excavating in these places the ground has a burnt look, and among the earth are small pieces of charcoal, indicating that these holes have been receptacles for fire, and were probably made use of in cooking. On the top of the breastwork trees are now growing, one of which, a white oak, measured more than ten feet in circumference. In the neighborhood of the fort are Indian graves and remains that have not yet been explored."

On the 18th of February, 1848, a lecture was delivered before the Meadville Literary Union, by William H. Davis, on "Crawford County and Its History," which at the time of its delivery attracted wide attention. In referring to the pre-historic race that once lived and flourished throughout the land, he says: "When and by whom our county was first inhabited it is now impossible to determine, but there is abundant evidence to be found in the landmarks visible in various parts of it that it was at one time occupied by a race totally different from the North American Indians who were in possession when the white men first trod upon its soil. It is generally supposed, however, that this people were of the same race who erected the mounds and fortifications which are so numerous throughout the whole Valley of the Mississippi—and perhaps are identical with the same nations who were found by Hernando Cortez in the Valley of Mexico, so far advanced in civilization. Whether they were the same or not, it is certain that the mounds, fortifications, ruins, towns, etc., prove that they were a people far above the red man of the North in all that could make a people great or happy. As an evidence of their knowledge, and to prove that such a race once inhabited Crawford County, I will refer to some of the marks now to be seen on the ground.

"A short distance from Titusville in this county, and on the west side of Oil Creek, there are perhaps about 2,000 pits, scattered over a level plain not exceeding 500 acres. Some of these are very close together, as close as the vats in a tan-yard, which they somewhat resemble, each having been about seven or eight feet long, four wide and six deep. These pits or vats had all been nearly filled, some of them entirely so, by vegetable deposit, perhaps the accumulation of ages. The mounds raised at the side of each pit by the excavation of the earth from it are distinctly visible. Close upon the margin of many of them and upon the very mounds made of the earth, trees whose size indicate an age of two or three hundred years, are found growing. Those trees could not have existed at the time those vats were made, for it is reasonable to suppose that those engaged in making those pits would either have commenced their labor so far from the standing timber that they would not be obstructed by the roots, or would have cut the timber down. Another thing affording an index to the time when these vats may have been made, is the fact that the inhabitants now in their vicinity first discovered the pits from their regularity in size, and the order of their location, and indentations of the surface and the general appearance of the mounds; they were induced to open them. On doing so they discovered that each pit was of the size before mentioned, and walled with logs regularly cut and halved at the ends so that they could lie close together, thus preventing the caving in of the earth. Now there are no evidences on the ground showing where the logs used

in walling the pit were cut. And although the whole flat is to this day covered with standing timber, not a stump remains to show that the axe-man had ever been there prior to the visitation by the whites.

"Many of these pits have recently been opened, and all were found to be about the same depth, fashioned and walled nearly exactly alike. Whether it was curiosity or cupidity which led to this investigation I am unable to determine—but certain it is that when excavated to the bottom of the log wall it was found that water rose in the pit to the depth of four or five inches. On visiting the pits a day or two after the excavation, it was ascertained that the water in them was covered with oil to the depth of one-third or one-half an inch. This at once demonstrated the use to which they had been applied. They had been used for gathering what we now call 'Seneca Oil' (petroleum), and the number of the pits shows clearly that whoever engaged in it, had, to use a modern expression, 'gone into a wholesale business.' It also proves that those pits were not made by the Indians. Their regularity, their number, their having been walled with cut logs, halved at the end, the averseness of the Indian to labor, all forbid the idea that he could have been their creator. Besides this, the Indians, I have been informed, have no traditions respecting them, at least none more satisfactory than they have of the mounds and fortifications found throughout the West.

"Nor could these evidences of former occupancy have been made by the French. The number of the pits prove that many persons must have been employed in collecting the Seneca Oil. The French were an enterprising, intelligent and warlike people. Had they been the operators, here we would have found, perhaps, an old fort or the ruins of a village. They would not have been in such numbers and for such a length of time, in a particular district of the country, as the work indicated they must have remained without the means of protecting themselves from the red men of the forest. In addition to this, the French did not take possession of our country till the year 1753, while the trees, mounds and pits indicate a much greater age than would be allowed them by assigning that period for their construction. It is well known that their occupation of this country was a military occupation. And by the rules of their military code, everything of note in which a portion of the army was engaged, would have been reported, and would be now on file in the war department of France. Is it probable that so many soldiers of the French army as must necessarily have been engaged in this business, for the requisite length of time, could fail to have been reported to the department, especially in a matter which must have greatly excited their curiosity, as well as their desire for gain? They were not made by the French; they were not made by the North American Indians; but in all probability they were made by that people who erected the other mounds and fortifications, towns and cities in the valley of the Mississippi. Their appearance bears the same age, and justifies this conclusion.

"Other evidences might be referred to to show that our county was inhabited by another race of people than those who were found to be its occupants by the French. I refer to the mounds, which now exist in various parts of the county. Some are found on Crooked Creek, some on Shenango, some on Conneaut Creek, some on French Creek, and one near Meadville, on the land of the late Cornelius Van Horne, Esq. Some of these have been opened, and found to contain human skeletons, and are considered to be receptacles for the dead. Now it is not the custom of any of the present Indian tribes to erect mounds over their dead, at least no instance of the kind has been noticed since they have come in contact with the white race."

Day after day and year after year, since the present race pushed westward across the Alleghenies, the plowshare has uncovered remains which had well-nigh returned to the dust whence they came. So common has been the occurrence of unearthing human remains in some parts of the country, that the discovery scarcely elicits remark. The wasting banks of the rivers occasionally display vast cemeteries, and names have been given to several localities from such exposures. Extensive ancient burial places have been discovered at various places, where thousands of graves are found in ranges parallel with each other. It is not to be wondered at that when the bones in the mounds have so nearly crumbled into shapeless fragments, those buried in the common plain, and which are necessarily less protected from moisture, should in many cases have passed to that condition nearly or quite indistinguishable from the mold that surrounds them.

A people so numerous as the Mound Builders must have been, and living in the country, as there is evidence they did, for a long period, must have had vast cemeteries. The conclusion to which all archæologists have come in regard to this matter is, that only the illustrious chieftains of the race were honored by the rearing of mounds over their places of sepulture, and that the balance were buried by the simple process of interment. There are, doubtless, grand depositories of the dead who thronged our valleys and raised the silent monuments of their toil all about us. We know not when we tread the earth of our village streets or the green turf of the fields, but that we walk over the remains of thousands of forms, which in ages that are past were pregnant with the same life and spirit of which we are possessed.

CHAPTER II.

INDIAN HISTORY—THE ERIES OCCUPY THE SOUTHERN SHORE OF LAKE ERIE—THEY ARE CONQUERED AND DISPERSED BY THE IROQUOIS—CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES WHO HAVE WRITTEN OF THE ERIES—DEFINITION OF THEIR NAME—MENTION OF THE ERIES ON TWO OLD FRENCH MAPS AT HARRISBURG—SENECA TRADITION REGARDING THE WAR OF EXTERMINATION—THE SENECAS OCCUPY THE CONQUERED TERRITORY—WAR BETWEEN THE SENECAS AND MASSASSAUGAS—INDIAN VILLAGES IN CRAWFORD COUNTY—FRIENDLY INDIANS AND WHITE PRISONERS FOUND HERE BY THE FIRST SETTLERS—NEIGHBORING INDIAN TOWNS—BIOGRAPHY OF CORNPLANTER—ANCIENT INDIAN TRACE—DELEGATIONS OF WYANDOTS AND SENECAS PASS THROUGH MEADVILLE IN 1808—COUNCIL AT JENNESEDAGA BETWEEN CITIZENS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY AND THE SENECAS—THE LATTER JOIN THE AMERICANS IN THE WAR OF 1812-15.

THE next race of men who dwelt in our land after the disappearance of the semi-civilized population that reared the countless earth memorials of their existence, were the North American Indians. The southern shore of Lake Erie, together with the territory contiguous thereto, was once occupied by an Indian nation historically known as Eries, a fierce and warlike tribe of whom no trace but the name remains. It is generally admitted by historians that the Eries were conquered and dispersed by the Iroquois about 1650–55. In a lecture delivered at Erie by Henry L. Harvey about 1840, he says: "The Iroquois, after attacking the Algonquins, commenced upon the Eries or Irrironons, a powerful and warlike race inhabiting the south side of the beautiful lake which still bears their name—almost the only memento that such a

nation ever existed—a name signifying cats, which they had adopted as characteristic of their tribe. After a somewhat severe contest, the assailants succeeded; 700 of them attacked and carried the main fortress, though it was defended by 2,000; and the survivors were either incorporated with the victors or fled to remote regions." Mr. Harvey claimed that a Seneca chief informed him that this stronghold of the Eries was situated in the vicinity of the mouth of French Creek.

In the Jesuit Relations a tribe called "Eries, or Cats" are located on the southern shore of Lake Erie; and the illustrious Catholic missionaries, Fathers Marquette, Hennepin, Perot, Membre and Gravier, all speak of this Indian nation as having dwelt along Lake Erie ere its defeat and dispersion by the Iroquois. Father Hennepin, in his work published in 1684, in speaking of certain Catholic priests, thus alludes to the Eries: "These good fathers were great friends of the Hurons (Wyandots) who told them that the Iroquois went to war beyond Virginia, or New Sweden, near a lake which they called 'Erige,' or 'Ericke,' which signifies 'the cat,' or 'nation of the cat;' and because these savages brought captives from the nation of the cat in returning to their cantons along this lake, the Hurons named it in their language 'Erige,' or 'Ericke,' 'the lake of the cat,' and which our Canadians in softening the word, have called 'Lake Erie.' "

In the State Library at Harrisburg, there are two old French maps, one printed in 1763, and the other in 1768, in which rude attempts are made to show the leading geographical features of portions of the United States and Canada. Both represent the south shore of Lake Erie as having been peopled by a tribe or nation of Indians known as the "Eriez." A note on the margin of each reads as follows: "The ancient Eriez were exterminated by the Iroquois upward of 100 years ago, ever since which time they have been in possession of Lake Erie." On the earliest of the maps the following is printed at a point along the lake between Cleveland and Sandusky: "The seat of war, the mart of trade, and chief hunting-grounds of the Six Nations on the lakes and the Ohio." The foregoing information in regard to the Eries is corroborated in a French book printed in 1703, describing the voyage of Le Baron de Lahonton, an adventurous Frenchman, who spent ten years among the Indians, commencing in 1683. "The shores of Lake Erie," he says, "are frequented by the Iroquois, the Illinois, the Oumanies, etc., who are so savage that it is a risk to stop with them. The Errieronons and the Andestiguerons, who formerly inhabited the borders of the lake, were exterminated by the Iroquois." Incidentally it may be added, he refers to the Massassaugas as a tribe living somewhere near the western end of the lake. The latter are also alluded to in a memoir on the Western Indians, prepared by M. DuChisneau, at Quebec, in 1681.

It is claimed by most historians, that the word "Erie" was the Indian expression for wild-cat, but a recent writer contends that this is a mistake, that it does not mean wild-cat, but raccoon. The latter were abundant upon the lake shore, while the former were rarely seen. A French memoir, written in 1718, relates that one island in the upper part of the lake was infested to so great an extent by wild-cats, that "the Indians killed as many as 900 of them in a very short time." It is possible that the French explorers, from whom the supposed meaning of the word has descended to us, mistook the raccoons for wild-cats.

Records are in existence which show that the Eries were visited by French Catholic missionaries as early as 1626. They were found to be living on terms of amity with the surrounding warlike tribes, and were governed by a queen,

called in their own language, Yagowania, and in the Seneca tongue, Gegosasa, who was regarded as "the mother of nations," and whose office was that of "keeper of the symbolic house of peace." The chief warrior of the tribe was Ragnotha, who had his principal location at Te-osah-wa or "Place of Basswood," now Buffalo. In 1634 a bloody dissension broke out between the several branches of the Iroquois family. During its progress two Seneca warriors appeared at Gegosasa's lodge and were hospitably received. They were preparing to smoke the pipe of peace when a deputation of Massassaugas was announced, who demanded vengeance for the murder of their chief's son at the hands of the Seneca tribe. This the queen, in her mediatorial capacity, was prompt to grant. She even set out with a large body of warriors to enforce her decree, and dispatched messengers to Ragnotha to command his assistance. The visiting Senecas flew to their friends to notify them of the queen's course, and a body of fighting men was hastily gathered in ambush on the road which her army was obliged to travel. The Eries had no anticipation of trouble at that point, and the first they knew of the presence of the Senecas was when they heard their dreadful war-whoop. The contest that ensued was one of desperation. At first the queen's forces gained the advantage, but the Senecas rallied and compelled the Eries to flee, leaving 600 dead upon the field of battle. No accounts have been preserved of any further hostilities at that time, and it is probable that a peace was effected, and amicable relations for the time restored.

The war of extermination between the Eries and the Iroquois occurred about 1650–55, and was one of the most cruel in aboriginal history. From the opening it was understood by both sides to mean the utter ruin of one tribe or the other. The Eries organized a powerful body of warriors and sought to surprise their enemies in their own country. Their plans were thwarted by a faithless woman who secretly gave the Iroquois warning. The latter raised a force and marched out to meet the invaders. The engagement resulted in a complete victory for the Iroquois. Seven times the Eries crossed the stream dividing the hostile lines and they were as often driven back with terrible loss. On another occasion several hundred Iroquois attacked nearly three times their number of Eries, encamped near the mouth of French Creek, dispersed them, took many prisoners, and compelled the balance to fly to remote regions. In a battle near the site of the Cattaraugus Indian mission house, on the Allegheny River, the loss of the Eries was enormous. Finally a pestilence broke out among the Eries, which "swept away greater numbers even than the club and arrow." The Iroquois took advantage of their opportunity to end all fear of future trouble from the ill-fated Eries. Those who had been taken captive were, with rare exceptions, remorselessly butchered, and their wives and children were distributed among the Iroquois villages, never again to be restored to their husbands and brothers. The few survivors "fled to distant regions in the West and South, and were followed by the undying hatred of the Iroquois. * * * Their council fire was put out, and their name and language as a tribe lost."

Traces of the tribe were occasionally found by the French Catholic missionaries during their labors in the western wilderness. A number were living as slaves among the Onondagas, and appealed to the missionaries to aid them in securing their freedom, but abandoned all hope on finding that these zealous priests were powerless to help them. An early French writer, describing the Christian village of La Prairie, says a portion of the settlement was made up of fugitive Eries. Students of Indian history are generally of the belief that the tribe was at one time considerably ahead of the other aborigines of North

America in progress and intelligence; but whether the survivors of this once powerful nation were wholly absorbed by other tribes, or their name gradually changed and thus lost sight of, will, doubtless, forever remain a subject of speculation, as no certain trace is left to guide us in arriving at a reliable conclusion.

After the expulsion of the Eries from this region of territory, the victors claimed the soil by right of conquest. In 1712 the Tuscaroras, being driven from the Carolinas, joined their fortunes with the conquerors of the Eries, since which time the Iroquois have been known as the Six Nations. This powerful confederacy was composed of the Cayugas, Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Senecas and Tuscaroras. The Senecas guarded the western door of the Iroquois "long council house," as they styled their dominions, and were by far the most numerous and warlike of the Six Nations. According to Rev. Timothy Alden, the Senecas called themselves Nun-du-waw-gauh or "the men of the hills," and had many traditions of the prowess and exploits of their ancestors. They dwelt originally among the hills south of the small lakes in northern New York, and along the Genesee River, and always claimed that the Iroquois nation were the first to obtain the knowledge and use of fire-arms.

The Massassaugas, supposed by some writers to have been a remnant or tribal branch of the Eries, had villages at different points along the southwestern shore of Lake Erie. The Seneca tradition states that between them and the Massassaugas there arose frequent misunderstandings, which finally resulted in a band of the latter invading the Seneca country. A battle took place on the Genesee River, but the rude bows and arows of the invaders were of little avail against an enemy armed with guns, and the Massassaugas were annihilated. The tradition says that the Senecas cut off the arms and legs of their dead foes, and suspended them on poles, reaching entirely across the river, and supported by crotchets driven into the ground. This triumph, however, did not last long, as the tradition adds that the Massassaugas subsequently procured fire-arms of the French, and after learning the use of them gained a victory over the Senecas; whereupon a treaty was formed, the tomahawk buried, intermarriages took place and the two tribes became as one family.

In the "Historical Collections of Pennsylvania" we find the following tribute to the prowess of the Iroquois nation: "The peculiar location of the Iroquois gave them an immense advantage. On the great channels of water communication to which their territories were contiguous, they were enabled in all directions to carry war and devastation to the neighboring or to the more distant nations. Nature had endowed them with height, strength and symmetry of person which distinguished them at a glance among the individuals of other tribes. They were brave as they were strong, but ferocious and cruel when excited in savage warfare; crafty, treacherous and overreaching when these qualities best suited their purposes. The proceedings of their Grand Council were marked with great decorum and solemnity. In eloquence, in dignity and profound policy their speakers might well bear comparison with the statesmen of civilized assemblies. By an early alliance with the Dutch on the Hudson they secured the use of fire-arms, and were thus enabled not only to repel the encroachments of the French but also to exterminate or reduce to a state of vassalage many Indian nations. From these they exacted an annual tribute or acknowledgment of fealty, permitting them, however, on that condition, to occupy their former hunting-grounds. The humiliation of tributary nations was, however, tempered with a paternal regard for their

interests in all negotiations with the whites, and care was taken that no trespass should be committed on their rights, and that they should be justly dealt with."

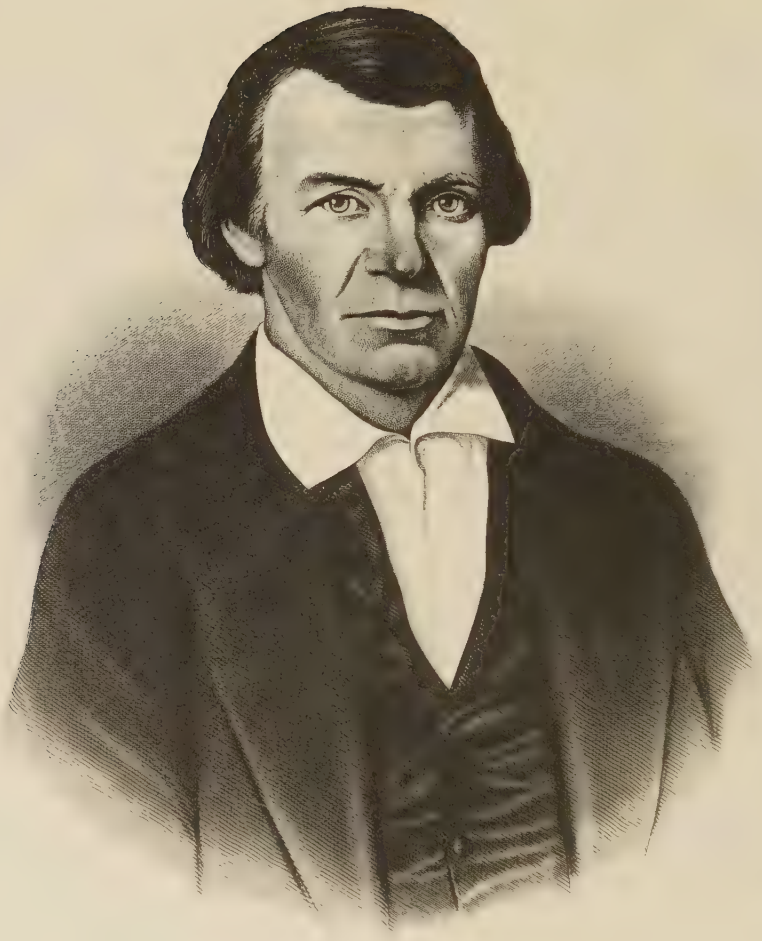
On the west bank of French Creek, a short distance above the mouth of Conneaut Outlet, was located the Indian town of Mahusquechikoken. In the summer of 1779 Col. Daniel Brodhead commanded an expedition against the Indians of northwestern Pennsylvania, and in his report to Gen. Washington, dated September 16, 1779, says: "On my return I preferred the Venango road, the old towns of Conawango and Buchloons, and Mahusquechikoken, about twenty miles above Venango on French Creek, consisting of thirty-five large houses, were likewise burnt." When John Huling located on the farm now owned by William H. Harrington, about 1794, the remains of this Indian village were plainly visible, and might still be traced for many years afterward.

It is also believed that there was once a small Indian village on French Creek, near the mouth of Cussewago, as a town called "Cassewago" is located on the Historical Map of Pennsylvania, between twenty and thirty miles above the mouth of French Creek, on that stream. John Frazier, the Indian trader, calls the village "Caseoago," and the State Archives uses the same orthography, but all locate the town about the vicinity of Meadville, not far from the mouth of Cussewago Creek. Frazier in a letter to his partner, Young, bearing date August 27, 1753, says: "The French had a fort some distance northwest of Venango at a place called Caseoago, up French Creek."

Within the period of American possession, the territory embraced in Crawford County appears to have been a sort of neutral ground between the eastern and western tribes of Indians. Though the Senecas were recognized as its nominal owners, it was utilized as a general hunting-ground, and occupied principally by nomadic bands who lived by hunting, and some Indian families who had erected a few rude cabins on French Creek. When the first permanent settlement was made at Meadville, in 1788, Stripe Neck, an aged Mohawk chief, friendly to the whites, was found dwelling on the west bank of French Creek, near where the Mercer Street bridge now spans that stream. With his numerous family he occupied three small cabins, and a few years afterward when the old chief died, he was buried by his people, assisted by the white settlers, on the bank of the creek. This mark of attention did much to secure the good will of many Indians residing in this vicinity, who subsequently proved firm friends of the harassed pioneers. Here the bones of Stripe Neck remained until some excavations were being made near the bank of the stream, when the grave was dug away and his resting-place obliterated.

The pioneers found living with the Indians in this vicinity several white prisoners, who had been captured during the previous Indian wars. Among them were Lashly Malone, captured at Bald Eagle, below Milesburg; Peter Krause (a German by birth), on Duncan's Creek, near the head of the Monongahela River in Virginia; Elijah Mathews, on Grave Creek, Ohio; Nicholas Rosencrantz, the son of a minister, and Nicholas Tanewood, taken in the vicinity of the Mohawk River. Krause, Mathews and Rosencrantz were married to squaws, and when the first settlers came to the site of Meadville, the two former had children eight or ten years of age. These men having lived from boyhood with their captors, were thoroughly weaned from the habits of civilization, and when the Indians left the valley, they went with them. Rev. Timothy Alden, while on a visit to Cornplanter, in the fall of 1816, staid over night at the cabin of Peter Krause, on the banks of the Allegheny, where he was then living with his Indian wife and family.

The nearest villages of the western Indians who were hostile to the whites,



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Ira C. Blair

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1894

Elizabeth S. Pollard

were on the Cuyahoga and Sandusky Rivers. A small band of friendly Indians dwelt at the mouth of the Conneaut Creek, in the northwestern corner of Ohio, and between twenty and thirty families of Senecas, near the western end of Presque Isle Bay, now known as "The Head," some four miles west of Erie. These Indians were living at the above points as late as the beginning of the present century, and cultivated extensive corn-fields in the vicinity of their villages. The pioneer records of Erie County, Penn., and Ashtabula County, Ohio, speak in terms of praise of these Indians, who, upon the occupancy of their lands by the whites, removed elsewhere, though often returning to camp in the beautiful forest bordering the bay and lake. Among the Indians living near the mouth of Conneaut Creek, was a Chief named Canadaughta, with his three sons: Big Sun, Standing Stone and Flying Cloud, also an Indian called Wire Ears, who extended their friendly protection to the pioneers of French Creek Valley.

In a rich bottom on the west bank of the Allegheny River, in what is now the northeast corner of Warren County, Penn., was located *Jen-ne-sa-da-ga* or *Tin-nes-hau-ta-go*, which means "burnt houses,"* the village of the celebrated Seneca Chief, Cornplanter, and the nearest Indian settlement on the east. This noted Chief was the stanch friend of the white settlers, as was also his half-brother, Halftown, of whose fidelity the pioneers always spoke in the most emphatic language. According to Mr. Alden, Cornplanter's Indian names were as follows: *Ki-end-twoh-ke*, or "The Planter," and *No-nuh*, or "The Contemplative;" but they usually addressed him as *Shin-ne-wau-nah*, or "The Gentleman." From Day's "Historical Collections of Pennsylvauia," we select the following sketch of the distinguished Chief, whose life was so closely associated with the Indian history of the northwestern portion of the State:

"Few names are more distinguished in the frontier history of Pennsylvania than that of Cornplanter. He was born at Conewaugus, on the Genesee River, being a half-breed, the son of a white man named John O'Bail, a trader from the Mohawk Valley. In a letter written in later years to the Governor of Pennsylvania he thus speaks of his early youth: 'When I was a child I played with the butterfly, the grasshopper and frogs; and as I grew up I began to pay some attention and play with the Indian boys in the neighborhood, and they took notice of my skin being of a different color from theirs, and spoke about it; I inquired from my mother the cause, and she told me my father was a resident of Albany. I still ate my victuals out of a bark dish. I grew up to be a young man and married me a wife, and I had no kettle or gun. I then knew where my father lived, and went to see him, and found he was a white man and spoke the English language. He gave me victuals while I was at his house, but when I started to return home he gave me no provision to eat on the way. He gave me neither kettle nor gun.' * * * * *

"Little further is known of his early life beyond the fact that he was allied with the French in the engagement against Gen. Braddock in July, 1755. He was probably at that time at least twenty years old. During the Revolution he was a war chief of high rank, in the full vigor of manhood, active, sagacious, eloquent, brave, and he most probably participated in the principal Indian engagements against the United States during the war. He is supposed to have been present at the cruelties of Wyoming and Cherry Valley, in which the Senecas took a prominent part. He was on the war-path with Brandt during Gen. Sullivan's campaign in 1779; and in the following year, under Brandt and Sir John Johnson, he led the Senecas in sweeping

* One of the towns destroyed by Col. Brodhead, 1779.

through the Schoharie Kill and the Mohawk. On this occasion he took his father a prisoner, but with such caution as to avoid an immediate recognition. After marching the old man some ten or twelve miles he stepped before him, faced about and addressed him in the following terms:

" 'My name is John O'Bail, commonly called Cornplanter. I am your son! You are my father! You are now my prisoner, and subject to the customs of Indian warfare, but you shall not be harmed. You need not fear!' I am a warrior! Many are the scalps which I have taken! Many prisoners I have tortured to death! I am your son. I was anxious to see you, and greet you in friendship. I went to your cabin, and took you by force; but your life shall be spared. Indians love their friends and their kindred, and treat them with kindness. If now you choose to follow the fortunes of your yellow son, and to live with our people, I will cherish your old age with plenty of venison and you shall live easy. But if it is your choice to return to your fields and live with your white children, I will send a party of my trusty young men to conduct you back in safety. I respect you, my father. You have been friendly to Indians, and they are your friends.' The elder O'Bail preferred his white children and green fields to his yellow offspring and the wild woods, and chose to return.

" Notwithstanding his bitter hostility while the war continued, he became the fast friend of the United States when once the hatchet was buried. His sagacious intellect comprehended at a glance the growing power of this country and the abandonment with which England had requited the fidelity of the Senecas. He therefore threw all his influence at the treaties of Fort Stanwix and Fort Harmer, in favor of peace; and notwithstanding the vast concessions which he saw his people were necessitated to make, still, by his energy and prudence in the negotiation, he retained for them an ample and beautiful reservation. For the course which he took on those occasions, the State of Pennsylvania granted him the fine reservation upon which he resided, on the Allegheny. The Senecas, however, were never well satisfied with his course in relation to these treaties; and Red Jacket, more artful and eloquent than his elder rival, but less frank and honest, seized upon this circumstance to promote his own popularity at the expense of Cornplanter.

" Having buried the hatchet, Cornplanter sought to make his talents useful to his people by conciliating the good will of the whites, and securing from further encroachment the little remnant of his national domain. On more than one occasion, when some reckless and bloodthirsty whites on the frontier had massacred unoffending Indians in cold blood, did Cornplanter interfere to restrain the vengeance of his people. During all the Indian wars from 1790 to 1794, which terminated with Wayne's treaty, Cornplanter pledged himself that the Senecas should remain friendly to the United States. He often gave notice to the garrison at Fort Franklin of intended attacks from hostile parties, and even hazarded his life on a mediatorial mission to the Western tribes. He ever entertained a high respect and personal friendship for Washington, 'the great councillor of the Thirteen Fires,' and often visited him, during his presidency, on the business of his tribe. His speeches on these occasions exhibit both his talent in composition and his adroitness in diplomacy. Washington fully reciprocated his respect and friendship. They had fought against each other on the disastrous day of Braddock's field. Both were then young men. More than forty years afterwards, when Washington was about to retire from the Presidency, Cornplanter made a special visit to Philadelphia to take an affectionate leave of the great benefactor of the white man and the red.

" After peace was permanently established between the Indians and the

United States, Cornplanter retired from public life and devoted his labors to his own people. He deplored the evils of intemperance, and exerted himself to suppress it. The benevolent efforts of missionaries among his tribe always received his encouragement, and at one time his own heart seemed to be softened by the words of truth; yet he preserved, in his later years, many of the peculiar notions of the Indian faith."

Cornplanter appears to have taken no active part in the war of 1812–15, but the Senecas took up the hatchet in alliance with the United States; and his son, Major Henry O'Bail, and his half-brother, Halftown, were conspicuous in that struggle against English tyranny.

In September, 1816, Rev. Timothy Alden, founder of Alleghany College, went on a brief missionary tour among the Indians, and spent some days at the village of this venerable chief. On his return to Meadville he wrote a letter to Rev. Joseph McKean, of Harvard University, giving an account of his labors, from which we quote a few passages. He says: "Cornplanter, as soon as apprised of our arrival, came over to see us, and immediately took charge of our horses. Though the chief Sachem of his tribe, and having many around him to obey his commands, yet, in the ancient patriarchial style, he chose to serve himself, and actually went into the field, cut the oats, and faithfully fed our beasts from time to time, while we continued in the place, *in ipsa persona propria.* * * * * * * *

"Cornplanter has been the greatest warrior the Senecas have ever had; yet he has always been remarkable for his humane treatment of the women and children of his enemies, who at any time have fallen into his hands. He is a man of strong mind and masterly eloquence. At the treaty of Fort Stanwix, he greatly distinguished himself by his talents and address, insomuch that by general suffrage, he has ever since held the first place of power among the chiefs of his nation.

"He appears to be about sixty-eight years of age,* and five feet ten inches in height. His countenance is strongly marked with the lines of intelligence and reflection. Contrary to the aboriginal custom, his chin is covered with a beard three or four inches in length, and upon his head are many of the blossoms of age. His house is of princely dimensions compared with the generality of Indian huts, and has a piazza in front. He is owner of 1,300 acres of excellent land, 600 of which encircle the ground-plot of his little town. From the United States he receives, annually, according to stipulation, $250, besides his proportion of $9,000 equally divided, one-half in goods and one-half in money, among those of every age and condition in the tribe."

In a published account of a trip of the steamboat Alleghany from Pittsburgh to Olean, in May, 1830, we find the following reference to this noted chieftain. "On the evening of the 20th of May, we departed from Warren for Olean, in the State of New York, seventy-five miles above (by water), with freight and passengers from Pittsburgh. At 9 o'clock next day we arrived opposite the Indian village of Cornplanter, seventeen miles up. Here a deputation of gentlemen waited on the well-known Indian king or chief, and invited him on board this new and, to him, wonderful visitor, a steamboat. We found him in all his native simplicity of dress and manner of living, lying on his couch, made of rough pine boards, and covered with deer skins and blankets. His habitation, a two-story log-house, is in a state of decay, without furniture, except a few benches and wooden spoons and bowls to eat out of, which convinced us of his determination to retain old habits and customs. This venerable chief

*Mr. Alden was mistaken as to Cornplanter's age. He was born about 1732, and in 1816 was eighty-four years old.

was a lad in the first French war, and is now nearly one hundred years of age. He is a smart, active man, seemingly possessed of all his strength of mind, and in perfect health, and retains among his nation all the uncontrolled influence of by-gone days. He with his son Charles, who is sixty years of age, and his son-in-law, came on board and remained until the boat passed six miles up, and then after expressing great pleasure with their novel ride, returned home in their own canoe. His domain is a delightful bottom of rich land two miles square, nearly adjoining the line between Pennsylvania and New York. On this his own family, about fifty in number, reside in eight or ten houses."

This celebrated chief died at his residence on the 7th of March, 1836, at the age of about one hundred and four years. After nearly half a century passed in strife and danger, bravely battling for the heritage of his people, the declining years of his eventful life were peacefully spent on the banks of his own beloved Allegheny, where at last he was laid to rest. Notwithstanding his profession of Christianity, Cornplanter was very superstitious, and whether at the time of his death he expected to go to the happy hunting-ground of the Indian or to the heaven of the Christian, is not positively known. "Not long before his death," says Mr. Foote of Chautauqua County, N. Y., "he said the Good Spirit had told him not to have anything to do with the white people, or even to preserve any mementoes or relics that had been given to him from time to time, by the pale-faces, whereupon, among other things, he burned up his belt and broke his elegant sword." Thus closed the life of Cornplanter, a name so closely associated with the pioneer annals of northwestern Pennsylvania, that a history of Crawford County would be imperfect without a fitting mention of his career. In 1866 the Pennsylvania Legislature appropriated $500 to erect a suitable monument at Jennesedaga, to the memory of Cornplanter, which was completed and dedicated on the 18th of October, 1867.

The ancient Indian trace from Franklin ran along the east bank of French Creek, following the site of Water Street in Meadville; thence crossed the stream to the island, continuing up the west bank of the creek for several miles, when it re-crossed to the east bank, and thence up the stream to its head waters. Washington, in his journey from Venango (Franklin) to Fort Le Bœuf in 1753, kept the eastern bank the whole distance, as the high water prevented a crossing at the regular ford. The Indians living on the head waters of the Allegheny usually came through Meadville on their way to visit the Western tribes, while the latter followed the same general course in coming from the Sandusky River, thus placing Crawford County in the direct route between those two great Indian confederacies.

On the 6th of June, 1808, a delegation of thirteen Wyandots and Senecas from Sandusky River passed through Meadville, going to a council with the Seneca Nation. They were bringing a friendly message from the Ohio tribes, to allay any fears of an Indian outbreak in that locality. During the summer some twenty or thirty Senecas, from their reservation on the Allegheny, went to Sandusky, where a council was held with the Western tribes. They passed through Meadville going and returning, and it was learned that the council's deliberations related principally to the existing differences between the United States and England, and in the event of a war they had decided to observe a strict neutrality. This decision, however, proved of very little stability, as the Senecas sided with the United States, while most of the Western Indians, through the influence of Tecumseh, assisted by English gold, went with England.

When the war of 1812–15 broke out, a want of confidence began to be manifested between the inhabitants of western Pennsylvania and the Indians on the Allegheny River, which excited some uneasiness, lest disagreeable consequences might result from it. To quiet all apprehensions in this locality, the citizens of Meadville held a meeting, and deputized Gen. David Mead, Col. Joseph Hackney and Maj. Patrick Farrelly to visit the Indians and ascertain their disposition in the coming war with England; also to make what explanations might be deemed necessary to continue the good understanding that had hitherto existed with these tribes. A council was held with the Indians at Jennesedaga, on the Allegheny, at which were present a number of chiefs and Indians of the Seneca Nation, among whom were Cornplanter, Silverheels, the old prophet who was the brother of Cornplanter, Joseph Beads, John Purfer, Henry O'Bail and Charles O'Bail, sons of Cornplanter. When the council assembled Cornplanter welcomed the delegates and wished to hear from them. Maj. Patrick Farrelly, explained the object of their mission, viz., to preserve the peace and friendship heretofore existing between the whites and Indians. After a short consultation with the other chiefs, Cornplanter replied, reciprocating the sentiments expressed by Maj. Farrelly, whereupon the council broke up with the best of feelings.

At this period a treaty existed between the Senecas and the United States Government, which provided that if a white man should kill an Indian or, vice-versa, the culprit would have to pay $200 to the friends or heirs of the murdered man. Though this might now be regarded as very questionable justice, yet it helped to establish a feeling of confidence among the Senecas, which made them the allies of this nation in the war of 1812–15, though every effort was made by the agents of the English Government to seduce them from their allegiance to the American cause. To Cornplanter's influence was due this happy result, as after the Revolutionary war he was always the friend of the young Republic in her struggle against English arrogance, which was exhibited on every occasion, until the war of 1812–15 taught her to respect the rights of American freemen.

CHAPTER III.

FRENCH NAVIGATORS—CARTIER DISCOVERS THE ST. LAWRENCE—CHAMPLAIN FOUNDS QUEBEC AND MONTREAL—FRENCH EXPLORATIONS—CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES VISIT THE ERIES AND IROQUOIS—JONCAIRE—FRENCH AND ENGLISH TRADERS—CONFLICTING CLAIMS—CELERON'S EXPEDITION—THE FRENCH TAKE POSSESSION OF THE ALLEGHENY AND OHIO VALLEYS, AND BUILD FORTS PRESQUE ISLE, LE BŒUF, MACHAULT AND DUQUESNE—CATHOLIC CHURCH ERECTED AT PRESQUE ISLE—ENGLISH RESISTANCE TO THE CLAIMS OF FRANCE—WASHINGTON'S MISSION TO THE FRENCH COMMANDANT AT LE BŒUF—WAR BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS—OLD FRENCH ROAD THROUGH CRAWFORD COUNTY—FRENCH FORT AT SITE OF MEADVILLE—EVACUATION OF THE COUNTRY BY THE FRENCH, AND ENGLISH OCCUPANCY—FORTS PRESQUE ISLE AND LE BŒUF REPAIRED, AND VENANGO AND PITT ERECTED—INDIAN DISSATISFACTION—PONTIAC'S CONSPIRACY AND CAPTURE OF FORTS VENANGO, LE BŒUF AND PRESQUE ISLE—REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND AMERICAN POSSESSION—INDIAN TREATIES—ERECTION OF FORT FRANKLIN—SOLDIERS STATIONED AT MEAD'S BLOCKHOUSE—FRENCH CREEK SETTLERS ORGANIZE FOR PROTECTION—ENGLISH AND INDIAN OPPOSITION TO AMERICAN OCCUPATION—WAYNE'S VICTORY AND FINAL PEACE.

IN 1534 Jacques Cartier, a skilled French navigator, left the shores of his native land, and, crossing the Atlantic in search of a more direct route to India, discovered, on the feast of St. Lawrence, the beautiful river connecting Lake Ontario with the ocean. The following year he made a second voyage with the same object in view, and on reaching the mouth of that magnificent stream named it the St. Lawrence, in honor of the day of its discovery. He passed up the river to the sites of Quebec and Montreal, and found at each place a flourishing Indian village. Not knowing the climate or heeding the flight of time, the rigors of a Northern winter were upon him ere he realized their terrors, and midst untold sufferings these hardy but unprepared seamen were compelled to remain on the St. Lawrence, their ship being icebound, until spring navigation opened, when the survivors returned to France. Six years later Cartier made another trip across the Atlantic, for the purpose of founding a permanent colony on the St. Lawrence, but the experiment did not succeed. Subsequent attempts at colonizing were made by other navigators, but nearly a century passed away before Samuel de Champlain, on the 3d of July, 1608, planted the white flag of France on the site of Quebec, and three years later on that of Montreal. For 150 years succeeding the founding of Quebec, by Champlain, the devoted missionaries and fearless explorers of France, were unremitting in their efforts to spread the Catholic faith and extend the French dominions throughout the vast region around the great lakes, and down the valleys of the Ohio and Mississippi.

The French were the first white men who made explorations in the vicinity of Lake Erie. As early as 1611–12, Champlain ascended the chain of lakes as far as Lake Huron, and from that time forward the Indians were visited by numerous French Catholic priests on the double mission of spreading the gospel and promoting the interests of their king and nation. In 1626 the Eries were visited by these missionary fathers, and as early as 1657 the Jesuit Missions had been extended among the Senecas on the Genesee. In 1676–77, we find Father Hennepin visiting the Indian villages along the Allegheny, trav-

eling as far south as the mouth of Venango River or French Creek, while two years later La Salle launched the Griffin in Niagara River, and sailed with a picked body of men to Green Bay in Lake Michigan. Thus, the work of Christianizing the Indians, and exploring the great West was carried forward at the same time, but many of these heroic and zealous priests yielded up their lives at the hands of those to whom they came to teach the great truths of the gospel.

When the French and English began to extend their settlements westward, the lake region was under the full dominion of the Iroquois, with the Senecas as the immediate possessors of the soil. Both nations appreciated the importance of having the good-will of the Indians, but the adroit French were more successful in winning their friendship than their blunt and less politic competitors. As far back as 1730, the French Indian agent, Jean Cœur or Joncaire, penetrated this section, adopted the habits of the natives, became one of their number, and won them over to the French interest. "Among the public officers of the French" says Bancroft, "who gained influence over the red men by adapting themselves, with happy facility, to life in the wilderness, was the Indian agent Joncaire. For twenty years he had been successfully negotiating with the Senecas. He had become by adoption one of their own citizens and sons, and to the culture of the Frenchman added the fluent eloquence of an Iroquois warrior. 'I have no happiness,' said he in council, 'like that of living with my brothers'—and he asked leave to build himself a dwelling. 'He is one of our children,' they replied 'he may build where he will.'"

The dominion of the country west of the Alleghenies was almost wholly given over to the French, who established trading-posts along the streams and did a large trade with the Indians by exchanging beads, goods, provisions, guns and ammunition for furs, which were shipped to Europe and sold at an immense profit. Although their possession was undisturbed, it must not be inferred that it was quietly acquiesced in by the English. They viewed the projects of the French with mingled jealousy and alarm, sent out numerous agents, and succeeded in some quarters in estranging the Indians from their rivals, but not to any extended degree. Some of their traders were located at Venango (Franklin) and Le Bœuf (Waterford), when the advance troops of the French reached those points in 1753. John Frazier, a Scotchman, had established himself at the former place about 1745, where he carried on a gunsmith shop, and traded with the Indians until driven away by Joncaire, who also captured at Venango the traders John Trotter and James McLaughlin, and sent them as prisoners to Montreal.

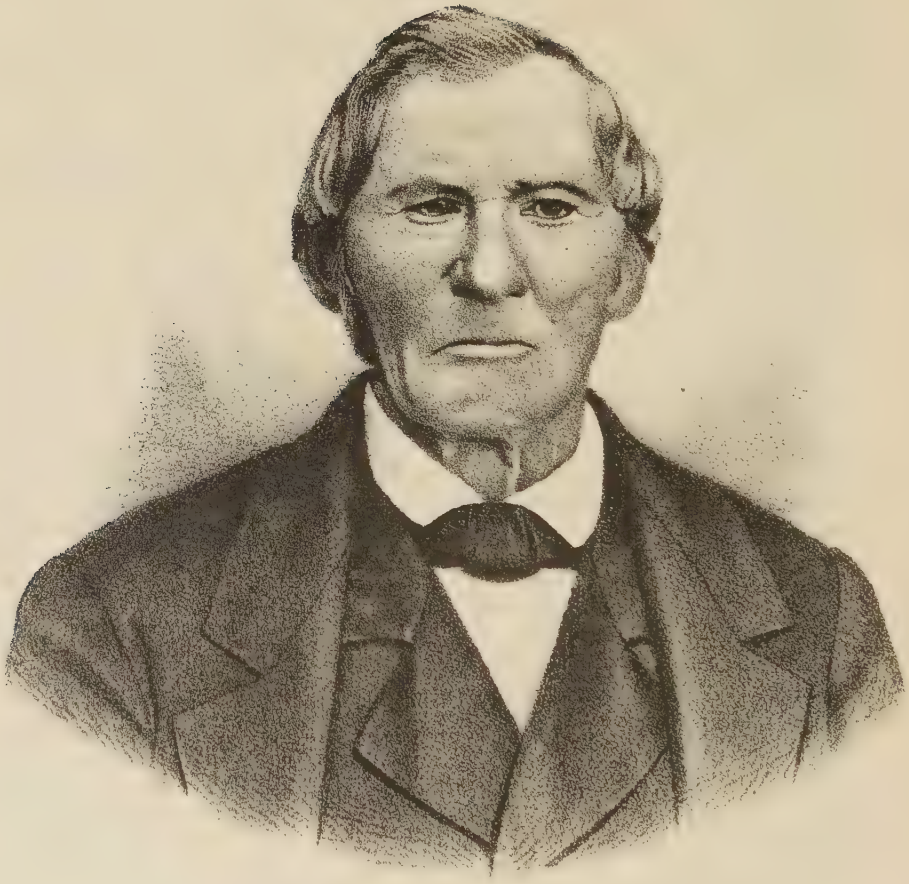
The French claimed that their discovery of the St. Lawrence and the Mississippi entitled them to the ownership of the territory bordering upon those streams and their tributaries. The English claim was based upon a grant by King James I, in 1606, to "divers of his subjects, of all the countries between north latitude 48° and 34°, and westward from the Atlantic Ocean to the South Sea," and also upon purchases of Western lands made from the Six Nations by Commissioners from Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, representing the mother country. A long and sometimes acrimonious controversy was waged between the foreign departments of the two nations over the question, and the leading officers in America on both sides looked upon it as certain to eventually result in war.

Prior to 1749 the French had done nothing of an official nature looking to the occupation of the country between Lake Erie and the Ohio. Their discoverers had taken possession of it long before in the name of the King, and

from that time it had been a sort of common tramping ground for adventurous traders of both nations, without being directly subject to the control of either. In the year named Capt. Celoron, with a detachment of 300 men, was sent by the Captain-General of Canada to "renew the French possession" of the Ohio and its tributaries. He came up Lake Erie to the mouth of Chautauqua Creek, from which point he crossed over to the Allegheny by way of Chautauqua Lake and the Conewango. Descending the Allegheny and the Ohio he deposited leaden plates at the mouths of some of the most important streams, also at the "Indian God Rock" on the Allegheny, as a "monument of renewal of possession," and as a mark for the guidance of those who might follow him. Rev. Father Bonnecamps, a Jesuit priest and mathematician, accompanied Celoron and made a map of the territory lying between Lake Erie and the Ohio River, whereon he marked the location of the buried plates, and also gave the sites of the many Indian villages upon the Allegheny, which however, was then regarded as a part of the Ohio River, the *La Belle Riviere* of the French. The expedition caused much alarm among the Indians, who regarded it as the beginning of a scheme to "steal their country" from them, and also created much commotion throughout the English colonies, whose officials saw in it a purpose to maintain by force what the French had before contented themselves with claiming in argument.

In 1751 a French expedition was organized in Canada to proceed to the "Beautiful" or Ohio River, and in May of that year a part of the force was reported to have passed Oswego in thirty canoes. For some reason the venture was abandoned, but warlike threats and preparations continued for two years. Finally, in the spring of 1753, the long-threatened occupation began. Quite a full account of the expedition is given in a letter preserved among the Pennsylvania archives, from M. DuQuesne, General-in-chief at Montreal, to the French minister at Paris. It was in charge of Sieur Marin, and consisted of 250 men. The little army marched up Lake Erie by land and ice to Presque Isle, where it was decided to build a fort and establish a base of supplies. The reasons which prompted the selection of Presque Isle were the short portage to Lake Le Bœuf and the facility with which canoes could be floated down French Creek from the latter to the Allegheny. On the third of August the fort at Presque Isle and the portage road were finished, and Fort Le Bœuf was built soon afterward. A French post had previously been established near the mouth of French Creek, by Joncaire, in a house whence he had expelled John Frazier, the Indian trader and gunsmith. Here Fort Machault was built on the west bank of the Allegheny, about sixty rods below the mouth of French Creek, being finished in April, 1754. The chain was completed the same spring from Lake Erie to the "Forks of the Ohio," by the erection of Fort Du Quesne, subsequently known as Fort Pitt.

When the French army penetrated this section in 1753, they were accompanied by several Catholic priests, who served in the double capacity of chaplains and missionaries. They erected a small log chapel at Presque Isle, on the right side of Mill Creek, near its mouth, and others within the walls of Forts Le Bœuf, Machault and Du Quesne, in which the solemn rites of the mother church were regularly administered until the departure of the invading forces in 1759. A prisoner who escaped from the Indians in 1756, gave the following information to the English: "Fort Le Bœuf is garrisoned with 150 men, and a few straggling Indians. Presque Isle is built of square logs filled up with earth; the barracks are within the fort, and garrisoned with 150 men, supported chiefly from a French settlement begun near it. The settlement consists of about 100 families. The Indian families about the settle-



E. Herrington

ment are numerous; they have a priest and a school-master, and some grist-mills in the settlement." The village, here referred to, stood on the east bank of Mill Creek, a short distance back from the lake shore.

Friendly as the Six Nations were toward the French in a commercial sense, they did not take kindly at first to the occupation of their country by armed bodies of the latter. The expedition of Sieur Marin, in 1753, and the erection of forts at Presque Isle and Le Bœuf, worked them up to a spirit of bitter resentment. A delegation of Senecas waited upon that officer at LeBœuf to inquire of him "by a belt" whether he "was marching with a banner uplifted or to establish tranquility." He answered that his purpose was to support and assist them in their necessities, and to drive away the evil spirits that encompassed them and disturbed the earth, meaning the English. His manner and conduct appeased them, so that the Allegheny River Senecas went to zealously assisting the French with horses and provisions. During the fall of the year, the chiefs of the several tribes bordering on the lake and the Allegheny River were called together at Le Bœuf, and told by the French commander that he could advance no further on account of the winter, but would be on hand in the spring with a strong force, and threatened vengeance if they took sides with the English.

In the fall of 1753, Sieur Marin died at Fort Le Bœuf, and was succeeded by Com. St. Pierre, Capt. Riparti being in charge of the fort at Presque Isle, and Capt. Joncaire of the post at the mouth of French Creek. In December, 1753, St. Pierre was officially visited by a young man who afterward rose to the proud position of being designated as the "Father of his Country." George Washington, a youthful surveyor about twenty-one years of age was dispatched on a diplomatic mission, by Governor Dinwiddie, of Virginia, to inquire into the designs of the French in the Ohio Valley. Washington was accompanied from Williamsburg, Va., by Christopher Gist, an experienced frontiersman, John Davidson, an Indian interpreter, Jacob Vanbraam, a French interpreter, and Henry Stewart, William Jenkins, Barnaby Curran and John McGuire, assistants, the two latter being Irishmen and well known Indian traders. He traveled directly to Logstown, where he was joined by four Indian Chiefs, thence taking a northerly course, arrived at the mouth of French Creek, December 4, where he saw the French colors floating over the headquarters of Capt. Joncaire, upon whom he immediately called and made known his mission. That officer treated Washington with courtesy, but informed him that he would have to apply to his superior at Le Bœuf for an answer to his inquiries. Washington remained at that post until December 7, when M. LaForce, French Commissary and three soldiers were detailed by Joncaire to accompany him and his party to Le Bœuf. They took the Indian trail up the east bank of French Creek, but on reaching the fording place near the site of Meadville, found the water so high and rapid as to render a crossing by fording or rafting impossible, and therefore continued up the east bank of the stream to Fort Le Bœuf. "We passed over much good land," says Washington in his journal, "since we left Venango (Franklin) and through several extensive and very rich meadows, one of which I believe was nearly four miles in length, and considerably wide in some places." The largest bottom here referred to is, doubtless, that whereon Meadville is built, as it is the only one between Franklin and Waterford, corresponding with Washington's description.

On account of excessive rains, snows and general bad weather, he did not reach Le Bœuf until the 11th of December, and remained till the 16th, during which time Capt. Riparti was called over from Presque Isle to confer

with Washington and St. Pierre. Washington's treatment, though formal, was courteous and kind, and he has left on record in his journal a warm compliment to the gentlemanly character of the French officers. The object and result of Washington's mission are given in the following letters, the first being the one he was charged with delivering to the Commander-in-chief of the French forces by Gov. Dinwiddie, of Virginia, and the second the reply of St. Pierre:

OCTOBER 31, 1753.

SIR:—The lands upon the River Ohio, in the western part of the colony of Virginia, are so notoriously known to be the property of the crown of Great Britain that it is a matter of equal concern and surprise to me to hear that a body of French forces are erecting fortresses and making settlements upon that river within His Majesty's dominions. The many and repeated complaints I have received of these acts of hostility lay me under the necessity of sending in the name of the King, my master, the bearer hereof, George Washington, Esq., one of the Adjutants General of the forces of this dominion, to complain to you of the encroachments thus made, and of the injuries done to the subjects of Great Britain in violation of the law of nations and the treaties subsisting between the two crowns. If these facts are true and you think fit to justify your proceedings, I must desire you to acquaint me by whose authority and instructions you have lately marched from Canada with an armed force and invaded the King of Great Britain's territory in the manner complained of; that, according to the purport and resolution of your answer, I may act agreeably to the commission I am honored with from the King, my master. However, sir, in obedience to my instructions, it becomes my duty to require your peaceable departure; and that you would forbear prosecuting a purpose so interruptive of the harmony and good understanding which His Majesty is desirous to continue and cultivate with the most Christian King, etc. ROBERT DINWIDDIE.

FROM THE FORT ON THE RIVER AU BŒUF, December 15, 1753.

SIR:—As I have the honor of commanding here as chief, Mr. Washington delivered to me the letter which you wrote to the commander of the French troops. I should have been glad that you had given him orders, or that he had been inclined to proceed to Canada to see our General, to whom it better belongs than to me to set forth the evidence and the reality of the rights of the King, my master, to the lands situate along the River Ohio, and to contest the pretensions of the King of Great Britain thereto. I shall transmit your letter to the Marquis Du Quesne. His answer will be a law to me. And if he shall order me to communicate it to you, sir, you may be assured I shall not fail to dispatch it forthwith to you. As to the summons you send me to retire, I do not think myself obliged to obey it. Whatever may be your intentions, I am here by virtue of the orders of my General, and I entreat you, sir, not to doubt one moment but that I am determined to conform myself to them with all the exactness and resolution which can be expected from the best officer. I do not know that in the progress of this campaign anything has passed which can be reputed an act of hostility, or that is contrary to the treaties which subsist between the two crowns, the continuance whereof interests and pleases us as much as it does the English. Had you been pleased, sir, to descend to particularize the facts which occasioned your complaint, I should have had the honor of answering you in the fullest, and I am persuaded the most satisfactory manner, etc.

LEGARDEUR DE ST. PIERRE.

Washington did not extend his journey to Presque Isle, feeling, perhaps, that duty compelled him to report the French answer as speedily as possible. On the 16th of December, having previously sent his horses ahead in charge of his men, he started on the return trip down French Creek in a canoe, and thus comments on the journey: "We had a tedious and very fatiguing passage down the creek. Several times we had like to have been staved against rocks, and many times all hands were obliged to get out and remain in the water half an hour or more, getting over the shoals. At one place the ice had lodged and made it impassable by water; we were, therefore, obliged to carry our canoe across the neck of land, a quarter of a mile over. We did not reach Venango (Franklin) until the 22d, where we met with our horses. This creek is extremely crooked. I dare say the distance between the fort (Le Bœuf) and Venango cannot be less than 130 miles to follow the meanders." From Venango Washington continued his journey along the trail usually taken by the Indians, but after three days of very slow progress he concluded to leave

his party in charge of Vanbraam, and with Christopher Gist as his sole companion take the nearest route through the woods on foot. Traveling day and night through the snow-covered, trackless forest, fired at by a prowling savage, a band of whom had lain in wait with murderous intent, they finally arrived at the mouth of the Allegheny, and having but one small hatchet were compelled to spend a whole day in building a raft. In attempting to cross the river on this rude contrivance, Washington was thrown into the water, and both had to quit the raft and swim through the floating ice to an island in the middle of the stream. Here they passed the night, suffering intensely from the extreme cold, which froze their wet clothes into a sheet of ice, Gist having his hands and feet badly frost-bitten. In the morning the river was frozen over and they crossed on the ice to the southern bank. On the 16th of January, 1754, Washington arrived in safety at Williamsburg, made a full report in person to Gov. Dinwiddie, and thus closed the first important mission of his glorious career.

Each nation now began active preparations for the coming struggle, and as soon as the weather would permit in the spring of 1754 troops were moved by both sides in the direction of the Ohio. The first French detachment to reach Pittsburgh, then known as the "Forks of the Ohio," was on the 17th of April. It was commanded by Contrecœur, and consisted of 1,000 French and Indians, with eighteen cannon. Their voyage from Le Bœuf down French Creek and the Allegheny was made in sixty batteaux and 300 canoes. The English had put up a stockade at the Forks during the spring, which was unfinished and guarded only by an ensign and forty-one men. This small body, seeing the hopelessness of defense, immediately surrendered, and the French began at once the erection of Fort DuQuesne. The French seem to have been uniformly successful in the campaign of 1754. Deserters from their ranks reported that the number of French and Indians in the country during the year was about 2,000, of whom five or six hundred had become unfit for duty. The boats used in transporting troops and munitions of war down French Creek were built at Fort Le Bœuf, and M. Du Quesne, in a letter from Quebec to the home government dated July 6, 1755, says: "The quantity of pirogues constructed on the River Au Bœuf has exhausted all the large trees in the neighborhood." It was on the 9th of July of this year that Braddock's defeat took place near Pittsburgh, an event which raised the French hopes to a pitch of the utmost exultation, and seemed for the time to destroy all prospect of English ascendency in the West.

Though we have been unable to find any special record of a military road having been constructed by the French through Crawford County, nevertheless it is our opinion that such a highway existed. Many of the oldest pioneers living in the eastern part of the county positively assert that the line of the "French Road" was still visible for some years after the first settlement of that locality. Early in 1759 an Indian spy named Thomas Bull was sent up the Allegheny by the English to watch the movements of the French. He reported the results of his mission to Col. Hugh Mercer at Pittsburgh, who transcribed the report in his journal under date of March 17, 1759, and which may be found in full in Volume VIII of the Colonial Records. The following passage occurs in this report: "The road is trod and good from Venango to Le Bœuf, and from thence to Presque Isle, about half a day's journey, is very low and swampy, and bridged almost all the way." This clearly indicates that there was a road from Le Bœuf (Waterford) to Venango (Franklin), besides the mere Indian trace down French Creek. According to the recollections of pioneers now living this road struck the north line of Crawford

County, some distance east of French Creek, in the northeast corner of what is now the Township of Rockdale, thence taking a southeastern course entered the northwest corner of Athens Township, and passing through the eastern portions of Athens, Steuben and Troy Townships left the county near the southwest corner of the latter subdivision, a little east of Sugar Creek. This was the shortest route between the forts, the distance being many miles less than to follow the meanderings of French Creek.

The French had also a kind of fort on the site of Meadville. William H. Davis, in his sketch of Crawford County, written in 1848, speaking of the French, says: "They erected no forts, with perhaps one exception, and made no particular location in this county, merely using our beautiful stream as a highway to transport their troops and munitions of war. From this circumstance French Creek took its name. It was called by the Indians Venango River. The exception to which I have referred, if it may be called one, was a fortified place of deposit for goods and other articles, located on what is called Dock Street in Meadville. Formerly there were distinct marks of a trench enclosing nearly a half an acre. At this day there are visible the remains of a canal dug from the creek to this fort or place of deposit. The late Richard Patch said, in his life-time, that when he first ascended the waters of French Creek, this canal was sufficiently capacious to have admitted the passage of a boat to the very walls of the fort, which was in ruins."

In a letter written by the trader, John Frazier, August 27, 1753, to his partner, Young, who gave it to Edward Shippen, Prothonotary of Lancaster County, and forwarded by him to Gov. Hamilton, in speaking of the capture of John Trotter and James McLaughlin at Venango by the Delaware Chief, Custologa, Frazier says: "He delivered John Trotter and his man (McLaughlin) to the French, who tied them fast and carried them away to their new fort that they made a little from Weningo, at a place called Caseoago, up French Creek." Mr. Shippen in forwarding this letter to the Governor, enclosed one from himself, bearing date September 9, 1753, in which we find the following explanation of Frazier's letter: "Weningo is the name of an Indian town on the Ohio, where Mr. Frazier has had a gunsmith shop for many years; it is situated eighty miles up the said river beyond Logstown, and Cassewago is twenty miles above Weningo." The first mentioned place was first spelled "Weningo," then "Wenango," "Vinango" and finally "Venango" by Washington in his journal, and the word has since remained as he gave it. As previously mentioned in this chapter, the Allegheny was considered a part of the Ohio by the Indians and French, as well as by many of the English officials, and was evidently so regarded by Mr. Shippen, as Venango was on the site of Franklin. On the Historical Map of Pennsylvania, a small Indian village called "Cassewago," is located on French Creek, between twenty and thirty miles above its confluence with the Allegheny. In the State archives the name of this village is spelled "Caseoago." Andrew Ellicott and other early surveyors call the stream emptying into French Creek opposite Meadville "Cassewago," and the settlement at the same point, "Cassewago settlement." The fact of this French post being called "Caseoago" and "Cassewago," by Mr. Frazier and Mr. Shippen respectively, and its distance up French Creek from Venango fixed at between twenty and thirty miles, clearly establishes its location at this Indian village, and in the vicinity of Cussewago Creek. Therefore the fort on Dock Street, in Meadville, the ruins of which, Mr. Davis says, were plainly visible during the earlier years of the county's history, was doubtless the one referred to by Messrs. Frazier and Shippen.

In 1757 the English seem to have won some of the tribes over to their side,

for we learn from the Pennsylvania archives that the French kept "100 men in garrison at Presque Isle, being apprehensive that the English and the Indians might attack them there." During the year 1758 the English made sufficient progress in the direction of the Ohio, to compel the French to evacuate Fort DuQuesne, on the 22d of November blowing up and destroying their fortifications, stores, etc., ere quitting the post. About 100 men with the artillery were sent down the Ohio, while about 300 retreated up the Allegheny by land and water, to Venango, where Gov. M. de Lignery, with a detachment of 200 men, took charge of Fort Machault, the balance proceeding to Fort Le Bœuf. A letter dated Montreal, March 30, 1759, announces that the French troops at Detroit had been ordered to rendezvous at Presque Isle, in order to be ready to aid Fort Machault if necessary, the commander at the latter being required, if too hard pressed, to fall back on Le Bœuf. The Indians, by this time, had lost confidence in the triumph of the French; many were either siding with the English or pretending to be neutral, while the majority had reached the conclusion that they could very well dispense with the presence of both nations. M. de Vaudreuil, writing from Montreal, on the 31st of March, 1759, says: "There is reason to presume that the Indians would wish there were neither French nor English at the beautiful river (the Allegheny), and that they are heartily tired of the war," a wish that is not surprising, as they were the greatest sufferers.

The tide of battle continued to favor the English, and they finally besieged Fort Niagara below Buffalo, compelling the French to withdraw 1,200 men from Detroit, Presque Isle, Le Bœuf and Machault for its defense. Its capture by the English astonished and terrified the French in this section. A messenger reached Presque Isle from Sir William Johnson, the victorious English commander, notifying the officer in charge that the other posts must surrender in a few days. The French knew that their force was too small to cope with the enemy, and began making hasty preparations for departure. Their stores at Presque Isle were sent up the lake on the 13th of August, 1759, and the garrison waited a brief time for their comrades at Le Bœuf and Machault, when the entire army left in batteaux for Detroit. An Indian who arrived at DuQuesne soon after, reported that they had burned all of the forts, but this is questioned by some of the authorities we have consulted. Upon taking their departure they told the Indians that they had been driven away by superior numbers, but would return in sufficient force to hold the country permanently. In this, however, they were too sanguine, as they were never destined to again occupy this territory.

The English did not take formal possession of the forts in Northwestern Pennsylvania until 1760, when Maj. Robert Rogers was sent out at the head of 200 rangers for that purpose, and though hostilities still continued between the two nations, the bloody wave of war did not again reach this locality. The forts at Presque Isle and Le Bœuf were repaired and garrisoned by the English in 1760. Fort Machault having been destroyed by the French at the time of its evacuation, the English built Fort Venango, in 1760, forty rods higher up the Allegheny than the site of the old fort; while new works were also constructed on the site of Fort DuQuesne, and named Fort Pitt. The struggle finally closed with the signing of the Treaty of Paris, February 10, 1763, and by its sweeping provisions France lost her entire possessions in the New World.

The Indians did not take kindly to the English, for no sooner were the latter in complete possession of the country, than they began by neglect and ill-treatment to excite the dormant passions of the red men. The Indians

admired and loved the French, by whom they were generally well treated; but it was not long until they hated the English with all the ferocity of their savage nature. Mutterings of the coming storm began to be heard, and in June, 1763, the great Indian uprising, known as "Pontiac's Conspiracy," occurred, resulting in the capture and destruction of all but four of the frontier posts, Forts Venango, Le Bœuf and Presque Isle being among those that fell before the fierce onslaught of the savages.

Throughout the Revolutionary war the English had control of the Western posts, but little is known of their movements in this vicinity, though, doubtless, they had a small garrison stationed at Presque Isle during a portion of that momentous period. The independence of the United States was acknowledged by Great Britain, in 1783, and by the treaty of peace England reluctantly abandoned all claims to the Western country, agreeing to withdraw her troops and yield up possession of the forts, block-houses and other military structures. Her officers, however, still retained a hope of the ultimate return of the colonies to the protection of the British crown. The English had, by this date, won the confidence of the Indians, who were kept hostile to the Americans by representations that England would yet resume possession of the country. As late as 1785, Mr. Adams, our minister at London, complained to the English Secretary of State, that though two years had elapsed since the definite treaty, the forts on the northern frontier were still held by British garrisons.

On the 22d of October, 1784, a treaty was consummated at Fort Stanwix with the Six Nations, by which they relinquished to Pennsylvania all of their claims to the northwest portion of the State, to a line parallel with the southern boundary of New York. This treaty was ratified in January, 1785, at Fort McIntosh, by representatives of the Ohio tribes. Thus did the territory, of which Crawford County forms a part, come under the jurisdiction of the Americans, and in 1785 surveyors were sent by the State into the newly acquired country to survey and divide the lands for the purpose of appropriating a portion of them among the Pennsylvania veterans of the Revolution.

The first military occupation of northwestern Pennsylvania by the Americans occurred in the spring of 1787, when a company of United States troops, amounting in all to eighty-seven men, under the command of Capt. Jonathan Hart, arrived from Pittsburgh at the mouth of French Creek. Not liking the location of the old forts, Machault and Venango, Capt. Hart selected a site on the south bank of French Creek, about half a mile above its confluence with the Allegheny, whereon he built Fort Franklin. Samuel Lord, Luke Hill and John Wentworth, three well-remembered pioneers of Crawford County, were soldiers in Capt. Hart's Company, while about a dozen hardy frontiersmen accompanied the corps with the intention of settling in the vicinity of the fort. A garrison of about 100 men was kept at Fort Franklin until 1796, when a strong, wooden building, known as the "Old Garrison," was erected close to the mouth of French Creek for better convenience in receiving provisions, munitions, etc., brought by boats and canoes from Pittsburgh. The troops removed from the fort to this building, which they continued to occupy until 1803, when, their presence becoming unnecessary, they were withdrawn from Franklin altogether. The fort soon went entirely to ruin, but the garrison building remained for more than twenty years, being utilized as a county jail from 1805 to 1819. Its site is now the center of French Creek, which has gradually washed away the southern bank, until its bed occupies the spot whereon the "Old Garrison" stood.

During the Indian troubles from 1791 to 1794, the troops stationed at

Fort Franklin rendered important service to the Cussewago settlement, while the settlers were several times compelled to leave their cabins and remove to the fort to escape the vengeance of the savages. In the spring of 1791, Ensign John Jeffers, of the First Pennsylvania Regiment, at the head of thirty men and three Indians, returned from Lake Erie, where he had been hunting for some free traders whom he had been told were trading with the Indians of the lake region. Ensign Jeffers arrived at "Mead's block-house" the very day that some hostile Indians had attacked Cornelius Van Horne, Thomas Ray and William Gregg, while working in a field between the Cussewago and French Creeks, killing Gregg and capturing Van Horne and Ray, both of whom subsequently escaped. In the fall and winter of 1791, a Sergeant with fifteen men guarded the settlement, but in January, 1792, this small force was ordered back to Fort Franklin. During a part of 1793, Ensign Lewis Bond, with a detachment of twenty-four men, was stationed at "Mead's block-house." The same fall Gen. Wilkins ordered Cornelius Van Horne to raise a force of fifteen men for guard duty, which served under Mr. Van Horne until the close of the year. The following year Gen. Gibson sent Mr. Van Horne an Ensign's commission, with instructions to enlist a company of forty or fifty men. Most of the settlers joined this company, which served from August 4 till December 31 of that year, and a regular block-house was erected a short distance southeast of "Mead's block-house." On the 12th of August, 1794, a small force of seven men was sent from Fort LeBœuf to assist in protecting the Mead settlement from the bands of Indians then infesting the country.

A serious misunderstanding arose between the State and the Six Nations over the acquisition of the northern part of Erie County, known as the "Triangle," which was not indeed in the territory ceded by the treaties of 1784 and 1785. By a treaty made on the 9th of January, 1789, with a party only of the Six Nations, they acknowledged "the right of soil and jurisdiction to and over" the Triangle "to be vested in the State of Pennsylvania." Some dissatisfaction having arisen among the Seneca tribe in consequence of this act, the Legislature empowered the Governor to draw a warrant for $800 in favor of Cornplanter, Halftown and Big Tree, in trust for the use of the tribe and in full satisfaction of all demands, in consideration of which the said chiefs, on the 3d of February, 1791, signed a release of all claims against the State for themselves and their people forever. On the 3d of March, 1792, the Triangle was purchased from the United States by the Commonwealth, for $151,640.25, and a month later an act of Assembly was passed to encourage its settlement by white people.

Boats and canoes left Pittsburgh on the 16th of April, by way of the Allegheny River, the stores and provisions having been sent in advance. By the 25th of April, three officers and seventy-seven men had reached Fort Franklin. On the same date a report reached headquarters at Pittsburgh that the Indians, incited by English agents, were "meditating an opposition to the designs of the Government respecting Presque Isle," and a week later Capt. Ebenezer Denny wrote to the Governor his apprehensions that "a council holding at the mouth of Buffalo Creek between the chiefs of the Six Nations and the British may terminate unfavorably to our establishment." On the 1st of May, a Munsee Indian was killed at Franklin in a drunken row by a white man named Robertson. This added greatly to the feeling among the aborigines. The affair was settled by the party at Franklin raising a purse of $100 and paying it to the relatives of the dead man, in satisfaction of their wrong, according to an old custom among the Indians.

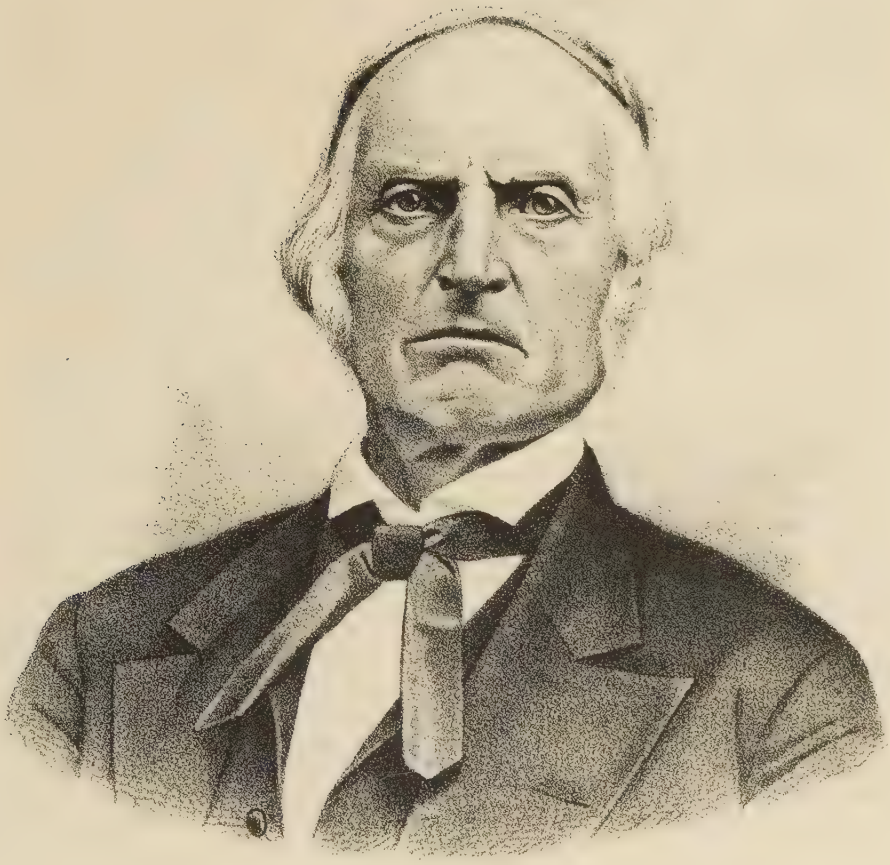
The troops took possession of the forks of French Creek, about two miles below the old post of Le Bœuf, on or near the 11th of May, where they built a small block-house, pending the cutting out of the logs which obstructed the navigation of the stream. From this point, Gen. John Wilkins, of Pittsburgh, who accompanied the expedition, wrote on the day of their arrival that "the British are determined to oppose the progress of the State troops from Le Bœuf to Presque Isle, by sending a number of Indians and English to cut them off." In a few days more the detachment reached Le Bœuf, where they immediately erected two small picketed block-houses, which, Wilkins reported, "will make them sufficiently strong until the re-enforcement arrives under Capt. Denny." The latter event did not occur until the 24th of June. It was the intention to establish a post at Presque Isle forthwith, but Indian opposition delayed the enterprise until the spring of 1795.

On the 4th of July, 1794, Capt. Denny reported to the Governor as follows: "Have been busy erecting a stockade post. Moved the detachment in yesterday. Am now beyond the power of any body of hostile Indians. None have been around since the party on the 24th. Hear firing almost daily, but whether friends or foes is uncertain." Andrew Ellicott, one of the Commissioners appointed by the State to lay out the towns of Erie, Waterford, Franklin and Warren, wrote from Le Bœuf on the 1st of August:

"The Indians consider themselves as our enemies and that we are theirs. From this consideration they never come near the garrison except as spies, and then escape as soon as discovered." Denny notified the Governor on the same date that they had four block-houses at Le Bœuf, on two of which a six-pounder was mounted, the others not being calculated for cannon. Over each gate was a swivel. The officers occupied their tents in the absence of more agreeable quarters. The situation he regarded as excellent, except that there was a hollow way parallel with the rear of the works and within gunshot, that would "cover any number of Indians." This was examined every morning before the gates were thrown open. A few days previous two or three Indians were seen "reviewing the plan," and who seemed disappointed when a white flag was hoisted. The troops at the post numbered 110, inclusive of officers. Ellicott regarded the garrison as being "in excellent order," and that it could, "if supplied with provisions, safely bid defiance to all the Indians between the Genesee and Mississippi Rivers."

The treaties and deed previously referred to were distasteful to a large element of the Six Nations, and even some of the Senecas refused to acquiesce in them, charging that Cornplanter and the other chiefs had been bribed to give the documents their signatures. The Indians regarded the presence of the State troops with great disfavor, and determined if possible to prevent the settlement of the territory. They were incited to this course by English emissaries, who hoped that by a rising of the Indian tribes they might cripple the infant government of the Union, and perhaps restore the western territory to England. To placate the Indians who continued sullen and threatening, a council was held at the Seneca village, on the site of Buffalo, June 18, 1794, another at Fort Le Bœuf June 24, and a third at the former place July 4, of the same year, at all of which the savages reiterated their determination of preventing a garrison being stationed at Presque Isle.

Among the most hostile to the progress of the Americans was the celebrated Brandt, head of the Mohawk tribe, who still cherished the idea, originated by Pontiac, of building up a great Indian confederacy and restricting the control of the Union to the country east of the Allegheny. The following letter, written by him on the 19th of July, 1794, to Gov. Simcoe, of Upper Canada,



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shows in a clearer light the aid extended to the hostile Indians by the English authorities:

"In regard to the Presque Isle business, should we not get an answer at the time limited, it is our business to push those fellows hard. * * Should those fellows (the Americans) not go off, and O'Bail (Cornplanter) continue in the same opinion, an expedition against those Yankees must of consequence take place. His Excellency has been so good as to furnish us with a 100 weight of powder, and ball in proportion, which is now at Fort Erie, opposite Buffalo; but, in the event of an attack upon Le Bœuf people, I could wish, if consistent, that his Excellency in addition would order a like quantity in addition, to be at Fort Erie in order to be in readiness; likewise, I would hope for a little assistance in provisions."

It may be stated here that the Six Nations were dissuaded from joining the confederacy of Western Indians to oppose the Americans chiefly by the influence of Cornplanter. His course cost him the confidence of his people, but he was rewarded by the thanks of the State and United States Governments, and received liberal donations of land from Pennsylvania for his unwavering friendship to the American cause.

On the 10th of October, 1794, Gen. Wilkins wrote to Gov. Mifflin, giving very favorable reports of affairs at Forts Franklin and Le Bœuf. He stated that the English influence over the Six Nations had been greatly weakened by the defeat of the Western tribes at the battle of "Fallen Timbers," the previous August. Some of the Six Nation Indians participated in that battle, and on getting back told the most terrifying stories of Wayne's skill and bravery. In fact, they were so humbled by the crushing defeat of their Western brethren, that they readily accepted Cornplanter's advice, and exhibited no further opposition to the State's plans for settling the territory west of the Allegheny River. The treaties of August 3 and November 9, 1795, with the Western tribes and Six Nations respectively, resulted in a permanent peace, and from that period this portion of the State began to improve rapidly. Repose smiled upon the West, and no barrier any longer presented itself to the occupancy of the country by that hardy class of men, who coming from the older settlements of the United States, or escaping from the tyrannical laws and grinding oppression of European Governments, became here on easy terms proprietors of the soil, and found among the hills and valleys of the West abundance of room and a peaceful home for themselves and families.

CHAPTER IV.

PIONEERS OF FRENCH CREEK—DAVID AND JOHN MEAD VISIT THE VALLEY IN 1787—APPEARANCE OF THE COUNTRY AT THAT TIME—FIRST SETTLEMENT MADE IN MAY, 1788, BY DAVID, JOHN AND JOSEPH MEAD, THOMAS MARTIN, JOHN WATSON, JAMES FITZ RANDOLPH, THOMAS GRANT, CORNELIUS VAN HORNE AND CHRISTOPHER SNYDER—THEY PLOW AND PLANT A FIELD OF CORN IN THE BOTTOM WEST OF FRENCH CREEK—SELECTION OF LANDS—DAVID AND JOHN MEAD BRING OUT THEIR FAMILIES—ARRIVAL OF DARIUS MEAD, ROBERT FITZ RANDOLPH AND FREDERICK BAUM—FIRST BIRTH IN THE SETTLEMENT—BIOGRAPHIES OF DAVID MEAD, JOHN MEAD, CORNELIUS VAN HORNE, ROBERT FITZ RANDOLPH AND EDWARD FITZ RANDOLPH—THE HERITAGE THEY LEFT TO THEIR DESCENDANTS.

IN nearly all great and thoroughly organized armies there is a corps of active, brave men, usually volunteers, whose self-imposed duty it is to go ahead and prepare the way with ax, mattock and pick for the advance of the fighting rank and file. They are called pioneers, and are armed with guns, as well as implements of labor, for their position and their work is a dangerous one. They are obliged to keep a constant lookout for an ambush, in momentary fear of a sudden attack, for the enemy, with a better knowledge of the country, is liable any instant to hem them in and overpower them with a superior force. The men who pushed their way into the wilderness west of the Allegheny River, along French Creek and its tributaries, and all those earlier settlers of Western Pennsylvania and Ohio from the river to the lake were the pioneers of one of the grandest armies that earth ever knew. It was the army of peace and civilization that came, not to conquer an enemy by blood, carnage and ruin, but to subdue a wilderness by patient toil; to make the wild valley blossom as the rose; to sweep away the forest, till the soil, make fertile fields out of the wooded slopes, and build houses, which were to become the abodes of happiness and plenty. The pioneers were the reliant vanguard of such an army as this.

The first band of hardy and resolute men who penetrated the valley of French Creek with the intention of permanent settlement, wending their way up that stream from the Allegheny, found a land fertile as heart could wish, fair to look upon, and fragrant with the thousand fresh odors of the woods in early spring. The long, cool aisles of the forest led away into mazes of vernal green, where the swift deer bounded by unmolested, and as yet unscarred by the sound of the woodman's ax or the sharp ring of his rifle. They looked upon the timbered hills and the tall grass of the rich bottoms, jeweled with strange and brilliant flowers, where once the Indian had his fields of corn. All about them were displayed the lavish bounties of Nature. The luxuriant growth of forest and wild fruit-bearing shrubs and vines, gave evidence of the strength of the virgin soil and the kindness of the climate.

Such were the scenes that everywhere met the eye of David and John Mead, who in the summer of 1787, left their homes in Northumberland County, Penn., and traveling westward until they reached the valley of French Creek, explored it with the intention of making it their future abode. These men had become disgusted with the difficulties they had encountered in the conflicting claims of Pennsylvania and Connecticut to the lands previously settled by them

in the Wyoming Valley, and prepossessed with the appearance of the territory now embraced in Crawford County, on their return to Sunbury, gave a glowing account of its beauties and the richness of its soil. In the spring of 1788, a company was formed consisting of David Mead, John Mead, Joseph Mead, Thomas Martin, John Watson, James Fitz Randolph and Thomas Grant, who were also joined by Cornelius Van Horne and Christopher Snyder, who arrived at Sunbury, from New Jersey, about the time the party was ready to start for French Creek Valley. These nine persons were the first settlers in what is now the county of Crawford.

According to the reminiscences of Cornelius Van Horne, the party reached French Creek on the 12th of May 1788, though Rev. Timothy Alden, in a biography of Gen. Mead, published in the *Allegheny Magazine* for September, 1816, gives 1789 as the year of their arrival, but the former is, doubtless, the correct date. They encamped and passed the first night under the spreading branches of a large cherry tree that stood near the site of the east end of Mercer Street bridge in the south part of Meadville, and spent the following day exploring the lands in this vicinity. They then erected a temporary dwelling on the east bank of French Creek, which they crossed above the mouth of Cussewago, and commenced plowing in one of the fields that bore evidences of pre-historic occupancy. Four horses were hitched to the plow, which was held by David Mead, while Cornelius Van Horne rode one of the horses and thus drove the team. They plowed some eight or ten acres, which they planted in corn, but the June freshet in the creek destroyed the growing crop. As soon as the water subsided, the field was replanted, and though not fully matured on account of the lateness of the season, it yet yielded sufficiently to allay all fears of want in that direction. Thus was a permanent settlement effected in Crawford County, and the little band of hardy pioneers, the nucleus around which subsequent settlers gathered, were venturing farther into the dence forest then covering the land.

Of the nine persons forming the original pioneer band to the valley of French Creek, but four, David Mead, John Mead, James Fitz Randolph and Cornelius Van Horne, became permanent settlers of the county. Soon after reaching their destination, a selection of land took place, David Mead choosing a tract on the west bank of French Creek, immediately north of the island, while John Mead's selection adjoined his brothers' on the north. James Fitz Randolph's choice was a tract lying about two miles south of the site of Meadville, and east of the creek. Thomas Grant selected the land whereon Meadville was subsequently laid out, and Cornelius Van Horne chose a farm about a mile and a half south of Grant, but on the west side of French Creek. Early in the fall of the same year, Thomas Grant, weary of the trials and dangers of frontier life, abandoned his land and returned to Northumberland County. David Mead at once took up the Grant tract and built a large log house, subsequently known as "Mead's Block-house," near the site of James E. McFarland's residence on Water Street, in Meadville. He was the owner of three tracts of land, called in the patents "Meadville," "Mill Tract" and "Cussewago Island." Joseph Mead, Thomas Martin, John Watson and Christopher Snyder are not known to have made any selections, and remained only a brief period in this locality.

In the autumn of 1788, David and John Mead went back to Northumberland County for their families, and brought them to their respective cabins, which they had previously erected, and these were the first homes of civilization established on French Creek. The following year (1789), Darius Mead, the father of David and John Mead, Robert Fitz Randolph and Frederick

Baum brought out their families, adding considerable in strength and numbers to the little colony. The first-mentioned made his son David's house his home until the breaking-out of Indian hostilities. Mr. Fitz Randolph settled some two miles south of "Mead's Block-house," on land selected the previous year by his son, James, while Mr. Baum located about a mile further down French Creek, both being within the present limits of Mead Township.

In 1789 occurred the first birth in the settlement, viz., Sarah, daughter of David and Agnes (Wilson) Mead, who was the first white child born within the territory now comprising Crawford County, and doubtless the first (excepting the French) in northwestern Pennsylvania west of the Allegheny River. She here grew to womanhood, and in September, 1816, was married to Rev. James Satterfield, of Mercer County, Penn., where she resided until her death.

These families were soon joined by others, who had heard of the vacant lands and the fertility of the soil along French Creek; and thus, in process of time, each one adding something to the wealth of the settlement, they became surrounded with some of the comforts of civilized life. But it must not be supposed that this desired end was attained without enduring much toil and privation and encountering great danger. It is perhaps impossible for us after the lapse of nearly one hundred years to appreciate fully the extent of these privations, toils and dangers. Yet we can form some idea of them when we reflect that at first it was a struggle for life, as all provisions necessary for their support had to be transported from Pittsburgh or the Susquehanna settlements. They were in the heart of the wilderness, far from the scenes of their earlier years, surrounded by a savage foe, and knew not at what hour they might be summoned to deadly strife. Nevertheless, having come to stay, they remained in possession of their lands, except when driven therefrom by the Indian raids of 1791–92 and 1793, and many of them when laid beneath the sod left their possessions as a rich legacy to their children.

David Mead was born at Hudson, N. Y., January 17, 1752, and was the eldest son of Darius and Ruth (Curtis) Mead, natives of Connecticut, who purchased a farm and removed to Hudson immediately after their marriage. Here the family lived until David arrived at the years of manhood, when the homestead was sold and some valuable land obtained in Wyoming Valley, under a Pennsylvania title, but in consequence of adverse claims under Connecticut titles, the Meads left their land and took up their residence about six miles above the town of Northumberland, on the west bank of the North Branch of the Susquehanna River. About 1774 our subject married Agnes Wilson, a daughter of John and Janet Wilson, pioneers of Northumberland County, who bore him nine children, five of whom lived to maturity, as follows: William, Darius, Elizabeth, Sarah and Margaret. At an early period in the Revolutionary war the Indians began their savage onslaughts upon the defenseless frontier settlements of Pennsylvania, and during one of those raids, Asahel, the second eldest son of Darius Mead, fell a victim to Indian barbarity. The subject of this sketch removed his family to Sunbury, Penn., where he engaged in keeping a tavern, also erected and operated a distillery. By the close of the war he had accumulated a handsome property, and soon after the dawn of peace returned to his land in Wyoming Valley, supposing that the conflicting claims, as to title, were settled. In this, however, he was doomed to disappointment, for after expending considerable money in improvements, and undergoing much vexation in trying to obtain a clear title to his land, he was, at the end of three years, compelled to hastily collect a small portion of his household effects and with his family fly for safety to Sunbury. Here he immediately renewed his former pursuits, but destitute of capital, and

a change in the times rendering business not very lucrative, his utmost efforts could effect little more than a bare support for his family.

In the meantime he had heard of the rich lands coming into market west of the Allegheny River, and in the summer of 1787, accompanied by his brother John, he visited the valley of French Creek. The following spring (1788) they were joined at Sunbury by seven others—all of whom came to the vicinity of Meadville. In the fall of 1788 General Mead, having erected a substantial log house near the site of James E. McFarland's residence, on Water Street, in Meadville, returned for his family, and was soon comfortably settled on the banks of French Creek. One of his first enterprises was the erection of a saw-mill in 1789–90, on the east bank of French Creek, just south of where the "Red Mill," now stands. It was operated by water power, a race being built across from Mill Run, which furnished the power. To this was afterward added a grist-mill, which he also carried on for some years. Three years passed away peacefully, when the little settlement was temporarily broken up by Indian incursions, which continued off and on for the succeeding four years, the settlers being forced to leave their improvements several times and go to the fort at Franklin for safety. Before this period Gen. Mead had carried on an extensive correspondence with the Pennsylvania authorities relative to contending claims to the Wyoming lands, and sometime after settling on French Creek, he obtained from the State a remuneration in land, to the amount of an official valuation of those of which he had been dispossessed in Wyoming Valley. His father was killed by the Indians in 1791, and his mother died at Meadville during the summer of 1794, being the first death which occurred from natural causes among the white settlers of Crawford County.

In 1795 Gen. Mead's wife died, and the following year he was married to Jennett Finney, a daughter of Robert Finney, to whom were born six children: five, Robert, Alexander, Catherine, Jane and Maria growing to maturity. Of his children by both marriages, William removed to the West and there died; Darius spent his life in Crawford and Venango Counties, but his latter days were passed in Venango Township, in the northern part of Crawford; Elizabeth married the Hon. Patrick Farrelly, and died in Meadville, August 24, 1811; Sarah became the wife of Rev. James Satterfield, of Mercer County, Penn., and there died; Margaret married William Moore, and died in Venango County, Penn.; Robert and Alexander removed to the West, and spent their lives on the frontier; Catherine married Lot Dunham, and died in Meadville; Jane became the wife of the Rev. William Hutchinson, a Presbyterian preacher who located at Bucyrus, Ohio, where she died; and Maria married William Gill, and resided until her death in Meadville.

Prior to his coming to French Creek, Gen. Mead held the office of Justice of the Peace, and on the 31st of March, 1796, he and Thomas Rees, of Erie, were appointed by Gov. Mifflin, Justices of the Peace for the district consisting of "the Township of Mead in the county of Allegheny," the official term being "so long as he shall live and behave himself well." Mead Township then embraced the whole of what is now Crawford and Erie Counties, while the block-house erected in 1794 was one of the places designated for holding elections. Upon the organization of Crawford County, March 12, 1800, he was appointed one of the Associate Judges, but resigned the following December. In September, 1803, he was again appointed, and served continuously on the bench until the time of his death. He was appointed Major-General of the Fourteenth, and afterward of the Sixteenth Division Pennsylvania Militia, by Gov. McKean, and re-appointed by Gov. Snyder, and during the war of

1812-15, rendered important services to Commodore Perry, in promptly marching with his corps to the defense of Erie, in the summer of 1813, when the fleet then in process of construction in Presque Isle Bay was threatened with destruction by the enemy. Gen. Mead continued to discharge the duties of this position until a law was enacted annulling all commissions in the militia.

In 1797, Gen. Mead built a frame residence at the head of Water Street, now the home of Dr. Edward Ellis, and here he died August 23, 1816, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. His appearance was striking, being six feet three and a half inches in height, and built in proportion, and he was also a man of great bodily strength. His features were large, regular and strongly marked with the lines indicative of reflection; and though generally sedate and grave, he was always affable, easy of access, and a total stranger to everything savoring of ostentation. He was a kind and faithful husband, an affectionate father, a stanch friend and a patriotic citizen, while his home was noted for the generous hospitality extended to all who came within its precincts. He possessed but a limited education, as he was entirely indebted to his mother for whatever instruction he had received during his childhood days. Highly appreciating the advantages of an education, he had fitted up at his own expense the block-house, which stood on the northeast corner of Water Street and Steer's Alley for school purposes, and here the first school in Crawford County was opened in 1798-99. He subsequently presented this property to the Meadville Female Seminary. In 1800 he was mainly instrumental in raising the $4,000 to build and establish the Meadville Academy, and was also one of the charter members in founding Allegheny College, as well as one of its most generous benefactors.

General Mead was a man of strong passions, and was sometimes very irritable, yet his principal characteristics were persevering patience and unrelaxing application to whatever he undertook or considered his duty. His vigorous mind was ever active, and constantly occupied with the affairs of life, and had he been favored with a liberal education, his talents would have entitled him to the first positions in the gift of his adopted State. He was the leading spirit of the pioneer band, who first settled the valley of French Creek, and while his name will forever be perpetuated in the city of Meadville, which he founded and fostered during the first years of its existence, his memory will be gratefully cherished as one of the pioneer fathers, who laid the foundation of one of the wealthiest and most flourishing counties in western Pennsylvania.

John Mead was born at Hudson, N. Y., July 22, 1756. and removed with his parents to Wyoming, thence to the north branch of the Susquehanna. He was married in Northumberland County, and in 1787, accompanied David to the valley of French Creek, being also one of the original nine who made the first permanent settlement in this county, in the spring of 1788. In the fall of the latter year he returned with his brother to Sunbury, and brought out his family. His land was the tract immediately above Vallonia, and his cabin stood on the west bank of French Creek, just east of the fair grounds, and between the stream and the ravine. Here he lived with his family, excepting during the dangerous period, from 1791 to 1894 inclusive, which he spent near the block-house of his brother, or at Franklin, working on his farm whenever the state of the times would allow him to prosecute his labors. With the close of Indian hostilities, Mr. Mead was enabled to devote all his energy to the improvement of his land, and being a very quiet, retiring man we hear nothing of him in connection with public afairs. He died in June,

1819, leaving five sons and one daughter, viz: John, William, Joseph, Asahel, Chambers and Polly. The three first mentioned removed to Warren County, Penn., and there died. Asahel went to Missouri, and died in that State; Polly married John Camp, who, with his family removed to Missouri; and Chambers resided until his death on the old homestead in Vernon Township, leaving four sons and one daughter, all of whom live in this county.

Cornelius Van Horne was born in Huntington County, N. J., December 16, 1750, and was a son of Thomas and Jane (Ten Eyck) Van Horne, natives of New Jersey, of Holland descent. Cornelius was the eldest in a family of eight children—five sons and three daughters—and in 1757 removed with his parents to Sussex County, in the same State, where he grew up, receiving in his boyhood but three months' schooling. His father was twice elected to the Provincial Legislature of New Jersey, dying during his second term, and was also a Justice of the Peace, and an Associate Judge of Sussex County. He was the owner of a mill, and here Cornelius learned the milling business, which in after years proved of great advantage to him. Our subject served in the Revolutionary war, and upon the death of his father inherited several hundred acres of land in the Wyoming Valley. This land was located in Northampton County, and held by him under a Pennsylvania title, being a part of the territory over which so much trouble arose between Pennsylvania and Connecticut claimants. In 1784 he removed from Sussex County, N. J., to his land in Wyoming Valley, but in the fall of that year he with the other Pennsylvanians were driven off their lands by the claimants from Connecticut. Throughout this conflict Mr. Van Horne took a leading part on behalf of the Pennsylvania claimants, whose titles were subsequently confirmed by the courts, but it was not till long afterward that they received any compensation for the lands of which they had been dispossessed by Connecticut intruders.

During these troubles Mr. Van Horne had heard of the new lands just opened for settlement west of the Allegheny River, and concluded to explore them. In the spring of 1788 he and Christopher Snyder left New Jersey in a cart with two horses and a cow, and upon reaching Sunbury, Penn., joined the Meads, who were about starting West to settle in French Creek Valley, which they had visited the previous year. The party arrived at their destination on the 12th of May, 1788, and Van Horne selected a homestead west of French Creek, about a mile and a-half south of the confluence of the Cussewago with that stream, upon which was standing an unoccupied Indian hut. The plowing and planting of a field of corn by the little band of pioneers above the junction of Cussewago with French Creek has been previously related in this chapter. David Mead and Mr. Van Horne were the leading spirits in this first attempt at agriculture by the white settlers.

In October, 1788, his brother, Jacob Van Horne, and brother-in-law, Archibald Davison, with Davison's father, came out from New Jersey to see the country, and after a brief visit returned home taking our subject with them. He remained in New Jersey until the fall of 1789, when he came back to the settlement, but about Christmas again returned to his native State. In October, 1790, he made his third trip from the East, accompanied by Thomas Lansing and Peter and Mathias Colscher, with a wagon and team, but on reaching Pittsburgh and finding no road thence to the Cussewago settlement, he sold his wagon and left his horses for the winter close to Pittsburgh, whence he journeyed in a canoe up the Allegheny and French Creek to the site of Meadville. The story of the abandonment of the valley in the spring of 1791, by the few hardy pioneers then living here, the subsequent return of Van Horne and two companions, William Gregg and Thomas Ray, together

with the killing of Gregg by the Indians, and the capture and subsequent escape of Van Horne and Ray, will be found in the succeeding chapter, to which we refer the reader for a full account of the thrilling incidents connected therewith.

Soon after Van Horne reached Fort Franklin, upon his escape from the Indians, he returned to New Jersey, but in the fall again came to French Creek, where he found a Sergeant and fifteen men guarding the settlement. He and Mathew Wilson were engaged by David Mead to operate his saw-mill, which stood just south of the "Red Mill" site on Water Street, in Meadville. They continued in Mead's employ until January, 1792, when the mill was closed on account of the stream which furnished the power freezing solid. The soldiers were withdrawn to Fort Franklin about the same time, and all of the settlers, excepting Van Horne and Wilson, removed to the fort; but these two frontiersmen with four friendly Indians, remained throughout the winter and spring at "Mead's Block-house." They purchased two young panthers from the Indians, and in the summer of 1792, traveled East with the animals, exhibiting at Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, New York and scores of smaller towns on their route. Wilson, who was a dark, swarthy man, dressed in the skins of wild beasts, and while exhibiting the panthers danced and sang Indian songs, and told in a swaggering manner blood-curdling stories of hair-breadth escapes from the savages of the West, as well as of the many persons he had rescued from Indian captivity, all of which was pure fiction, yet brought in the dimes and pleased their audiences. The partnership was finally dissolved, each taking one of the panthers and dividing the profits. Van Horne soon disposed of his pet, and went on a visit to his mother, in New Jersey, thence returned to the Mead settlement.

The fall of 1793 found the French Creek Valley almost abandoned for the more safe proximity of Fort Franklin. In October Gen. Wilkins wrote Van Horne to raise a Sergeant's command of fifteen men for guard duty, which he did, and continued in service until the close of the year. In the summer of 1794, Gen. Gibson sent him an Ensign's commission with instructions to enlist forty or fifty men for frontier duty. This company, to which nearly all of the settlers on French Creek belonged, erected a block-house that year on the northeast corner of Water Street and Steer's Alley. The command was in active service, though stationed at Meadville from the 4th of August until December 31, 1794, scouting through the surrounding forests and guarding against Indian surprise. In 1795, Gen. Gibson forwarded to him a Captain's commission with orders to raise a company which was to assist in protecting the surveyors and workmen then engaged in laying out and building a road from Waterford to Erie. This company was on duty in that capacity from June until the close of the year. Upon the expiration of his last term of military service he settled permanently on his farm of over 400 acres below Meadville, where he spent the remaining years of his life.

Mr. Van Horne was married September 27, 1798, to Sarah Dunn, a daughter of James and Priscilla Dunn, natives of New Jersey, who settled in Crawford County in 1794. Mrs. Van Horne was born in New Jersey, April 12, 1773, and bore him the following children: Jane, July 10, 1799, married George Anderson and died in this county; James, April 22, 1801, died in this county; Priscilla, December 10, 1803, married T. J. Fox, Alden, and died in Pittsburgh; Harriet, June 9, 1805, died unmarried in this county; Thomas, July 26, 1809, still residing on the old homestead, settled by his father; Cornelius, March 3, 1812, died in this county. Mr. Van Horne was a short, stout, rugged man, possessing great muscular power, and was regarded a model fron-

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tiersman. He lived to nearly ninety-six years of age, but both body and mind had become frail ere he was called from the scenes of life. He died July 24, 1846, and his widow followed him the succeeding March, after a wedded life of nearly half a century. Mr. Van Horne was of a quiet, peaceable disposition, a kind husband and father, a faithful citizen and an honest man.

Robert Fitz Randolph died at his farm south of Meadville July 16, 1830, in the eighty-ninth year of his age. He was born in Essex County, N. J., about 1741, and came of Scotch ancestry. He married when quite young, and in 1771 removed with his family to Northampton, now Lehigh County, Penn.; thence in 1773 to Northumberland County, then the western frontier of the State. In 1776 the Indians swooped down upon the settlers of that locality, killing many and driving the balance from their homes. Mr. Fitz Randolph fled with his family to Berks County, but the following year returned to his deserted home, and soon after joined Col. William Cook's regiment, and fought in the battle of Germantown October 3, 1777. He served only a brief period when he was discharged and returned to his home on the Susquehanna. Another raid was made upon the settlement by the cruel and unrelenting savages, who murdered and pillaged along the whole frontier. Finding no prospect of peace or safety for his family, he went back to his native State where they would at least be secure from the terrors of the scalping-knife. He then re-entered the army and served until the close of the war. Upon the dawn of a glorious peace, in 1783, Mr. Fitz Randolph returned to Northumberland County, Penn., and settled on Shamokin Creek, where he resided until 1789, when he came with his family to the valley of French Creek, arriving at the site of Meadville on the 6th of July. As previously related in this chapter, his son, James Fitz Randolph, was one of the nine who came out in 1788, and upon the land selected by James, some two miles south of the site of Meadville, in what is now Mead Township, his father settled and resided until his death.

Mr. Fitz Randolph was in his seventy-second year when the war of 1812–15 broke out, and on the first call for volunteers he started for Erie, with four of his sons and two grandsons to offer his services to his country. Upon arriving at Lake Conneauttee, in Erie County, he was persuaded by some friends to return home, nevertheless the prompt action demonstrates the fiery patriotism with which this old pioneer was imbued. He was the father of five sons and two daughters, viz.: Esaac, died in this county in September, 1854; James, the first of the family to come to this valley, died on his farm in Mead Township in September, 1835; Edward, removed to the West and there died; Robert, died in this county; Taylor, also spent his life here; Sarah, married Kennard Hamilton, and moved to Iowa, and Margaret married William Jones, of Mead Township. Mr. Fitz Randolph was a man who mingled little in the controversies and cares of public life. He cultivated by precept, as well as by example peace on earth and good will toward men. The friend who visited his home was sure to receive a cordial welcome, while the stranger or unfortunate were never sent away empty-handed. Old and full of days he went down to the grave without leaving behind him a single enemy.

Of his children, Edward Fitz Randolph took the most prominent part in the early events of this region. He was born in what is now Lehigh County, Penn., March 1, 1772, and was in his eighteenth year when the family removed to the valley of French Creek. He served as a volunteer in 1791, doing duty at Fort Franklin from April 1 until July, when he went to Pittsburgh, and in the spring of 1792 entered the Government employ in transporting provisions from that point to Fort Franklin. During the year 1792 he and Daniel Ran-

som were sent to build a mill for Cornplanter, at his village on the Allegheny River. Ransom, who was the millwright, did not, for some reason begin the work, and after remaining at Cornplanter's village about four months, Mr. Fitz Randolph returned to his former occupation of transporting provisions. A part of the season of 1793 he supplied Ensign Bond's command, then stationed at "Mead's Block-house." In September of that year he was employed by Maj. Isaac Craig, the Government Quartermaster at Pittsburgh, to go down the Ohio with Col. Clark in charge of a boat loaded with ammunition for Gen. Wayne's army, then organizing at Fort Washington (Cincinnati). Mr. Fitz Randolph returned to Pittsburgh in December, thence to the Mead settlement. In May, 1794, he with several other pioneers of French Creek took a lumber raft from David Mead's mill down the stream to the Allegheny, thence to Pittsburgh. He was there engaged by Gen. John Wilkins to pilot Capt. Ebenezer Denny through the forest to Fort Le Boeuf, but on arriving at Meadville Mr. Fitz Randolph was taken sick, and his brother, James, conducted the officers the remaining distance.

Upon his convalescence he again went to Pittsburgh, and in July, 1794, joined Capt. John Heath on his way to Fort Franklin, with a re-enforcement for that garrison, whence he came to Meadville. About the first of August, a soldier having been killed by the Indians near Fort Franklin, Capt. Heath wrote to Robert Fitz Randolph for some men competent to act as scouts or spies, and Luke Hill, John Wentworth, John Baum and Edward Fitz Randolph were recommended for the work. Mr. Fitz Randolph was engaged in this dangerous service, and in carrying expresses from Pittsburgh to Fort Le Boeuf throughout the month of August, traversing the Indian trails by day, and sleeping at night in his blanket beneath the protecting branches of the forest. In the spring of 1795 Capt. Russell Bissell began the erection of a fort at Erie, and in August, Edward and Taylor Fitz Randolph were employed by Maj. Craig to go to Erie as teamsters, and assist in the construction of the fort. Their father furnished three yoke of oxen and Cornelius Van Horne one yoke for the purpose. They worked at Erie until November, then returned to Meadville. Edward Fitz Randolph was married in 1797, to Elizabeth Wilson, a daughter of Benjamin Wilson, and settled on a farm in what is now Vernon Township, where he resided until his removal to the West. For a brief period during the war of 1812–15, he was at Erie, thence went to Buffalo as a teamster for the Commissary Department.

It was from Edward Fitz Randolph that Mr. Alfred Huidekoper, in 1846, obtained most of his facts relating to the first settlement of the county. He says: "Though young at the time, Mr. Fitz Randolph took a prominent part in the first settlement of the county, was occasionally employed by the officials of the Government, and had otherwise an opportunity of becoming well informed about its early history. For fifty-seven years he has lived in this county, forty-nine of which have been spent upon the farm where he now resides, about two miles west of Meadville. Tall, erect, venerable and active, his vigor at the age of seventy-four adds another to the many instances of a hardy constitution, acquired by exposure in youth to the vicissitudes of a border life. When I called upon him I found him at work alone in his sugar-camp, and while seated on a log in front of his boiling kettles, recounting his reminiscences of past events, he seemed indeed an appropriate historian of times when men's homes were the open air, and their whole stock of furniture an iron vessel like the one before us."

None of the first settlers of this county are now living, and but few of their children who yet survive have minds that have stood the wear of time and the

infirmities of age, or whose memories go back sufficiently to retain and describe with satisfactory clearness the events which transpired on the banks of French Creek during the last decade of the eighteenth century. When the first band of hardy pioneers came to this valley there were none to dispute their right but the tawny sons of the forest, from whose pitiless hands they had suffered much in the past. But their spirit of enterprise and determination to secure a permanent abode cheered them in their herculean task, and sustained them under every privation, danger and difficulty incident to a home in the wilderness. The comforts and advantages which their children subsequently enjoyed were procured by privations and sufferings, from the undergoing of which the most daring frontiersman well might shrink. Yet their descendants are now in possession of the soil obtained and prepared for them by these brave pioneers, and while viewing the beautiful hills and valleys thickly dotted with homes of civilization, can truly say with the poet:

"This is the land our fathers loved,
The homestead which they toiled to win;
This is the ground whereon they moved,
And these the graves they slumber in,
And we the sons by whom are borne
The mantles which the dead have worn."

CHAPTER V.

INDIAN DEPREDATIONS—FRIENDLY INDIANS—THE SETTLERS LEAVE THE VALLEY IN APRIL, 1791—RETURN OF CORNELIUS VAN HORNE, THOMAS RAY AND WILLIAM GREGG—CAPTURE OF VAN HORNE BY THE INDIANS AND HIS SUBSEQUENT ESCAPE—HE MEETS ENSIGN JEFFERS AT MEAD'S BLOCK-HOUSE AND GOES TO FORT FRANKLIN—RAY CAPTURED AND GREGG KILLED BY THE SAVAGES—THE FORMER TAKEN TO DETROIT, BUT FINALLY GAINS HIS FREEDOM—CAPTURE AND DEATH OF DARIUS MEAD—UNSETTLED STATE OF FRENCH CREEK VALLEY—MEAD'S BLOCK-HOUSE GARRISONED BY ENSIGN BOND—INDIANS ATTACK JAMES DICKSON—CORNELIUS VAN HORNE RAISES A COMPANY OF VOLUNTEERS TO PROTECT THE SETTLEMENT—THE SETTLERS ERECT A BLOCK-HOUSE AT MEADVILLE—FEARLESS CHARACTER OF THE PIONEERS—FINDLAY AND MCCORMICK KILLED BY INDIANS—RAID ON WILLIAM POWER'S CAMP BY THE SAME BAND, AND CAPTURE OF JAMES THOMPSON—CLOSING EVENTS OF INDIAN HOSTILITY.

THE last decade of the eighteenth century witnessed the advent of many settlers into the beautiful valley of French Creek. The rich bottoms along the navigable streams were the first choice of the average pioneer, and as no roads then existed in this locality, the water-ways were the principal means of transportation. All north and west of the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers was a vast wilderness over which the Indian hunters roamed in pursuit of game. It was natural that they would look with jealousy upon the influx of white men, and as a result could not at all times restrain their malevolent feelings. They could illy brook the sure prospect of the conversion of their beautiful hunting grounds into peaceful farms of ancient foes. The charms of war and the chase, even with civilized man, are rarely dissolved when they mingle with the memories of youth, but they were all of life to the Indian warrior, therefore the aged Indians were taciturn and sullen over the loss of the hills and valleys dotted with the graves of their forefathers. They had

been ofttimes engaged in mortal combat with the hated pale faces, and often victorious, so that their final defeat by Gen. Wayne was not preventive of many acts of treachery and murder.

It is true that not all of the red men in this vicinity were the enemies of the whites. The Six Nations were held in check by the powerful influence of Cornplanter; and the settlers had succeeded in winning the friendship of some of their dusky neighbors, who subsequently rendered them eminent services. Among these were a chief named Canadaughta and his three sons, Flying Cloud, Standing Stone and Big Sun, whose wigwams were pitched near the mouth of Conneaut Creek, in Northeastern Ohio, and to whom the settlers on French Creek were indebted for many acts of friendship. There was also a Seneca chief named Halftown, an old Mohawk chief named Stripe Neck, and an Indian called Wire Ears, who deserve the highest praise for their unswerving fidelity to the pioneers.

Though the first band of hardy settlers who located on the rich bottom lands of French Creek often feared for their safety, yet they dwelt in comparative repose until about the 1st of April, 1791, when Flying Cloud warned them of a contemplated attack by Western Indians. The truth of Flying Cloud's statement was fully confirmed, when William Gregg came to "Mead's Block-house" with the information that he had seen eleven hostile Indians the same morning some four miles northwest of the settlement. They at once sent their families down French Creek in canoes to Fort Franklin, twelve friendly Indians, six on each side of the stream, guarding them on the journey until they arrived in safety at the fort. These Indians belonged to Halftown's band, being detailed by him for that purpose, and his conduct on this occasion deserves the highest commendation. On the departure of the women and children, Halftown with the balance of his warriors, some fifteen in number, joined the white settlers and repaired to the fording-place, now the site of Mercer Street bridge, in the south part of Meadville, for the purpose of defending the settlement against the expected attack. After spending the day at that point without getting a glimpse of the hostile band, they returned to "Mead's Block-house," where they passed the night. The following day the settlers collected their horses, cattle and movable effects, and on the 4th of April, reached Fort Franklin, Halftown at the head of his warriors helping to guard them the whole distance.

Soon the monotonous life at the fort became irksome to these fearless frontiersmen, and four of the most venturesome concluded to return and attend to the planting of their spring crops. These were Cornelius Van Horne, Thomas Ray, William Gregg and Christopher Lansing. After reaching this decision, Van Horne, having left his horses the previous fall near Pittsburgh, on his return from New Jersey, whither he had been on a visit, went down the Allegheny in a canoe to get them. He started back alone through the dense, lonely forest, and the first night encamped in a deep ravine close to Slippery Rock Creek. Turning out his horses to graze, he kindled a fire, eat a lunch of bread and butter, then rolling himself in his blanket laid down to sleep. He suddenly awoke in the night to find that the fire had spread among the dry leaves about him, destroying some butter he had purchased in Pittsburgh, and doing considerable damage to his harness. In trying to save his butter, his hands were so badly burned that he could not sleep the balance of the night. To add to his troubles his horses strayed away during the night, and it was 10 o'clock the following morning ere he found the missing animals.

In the manuscript autobiography written by Mr. Van Horne a few years prior to his death, a revised copy of which is now in possession of his son

Hon. Thomas Van Horne, who resides on the old homestead in Vernon Township, he tells in his own homely way the following story of the rest of his journey: "At length I started; went as far as White Oak Swamp; two paths; I took the right hand one; went on a piece; I saw some person to my left; I stopped my horses until he went past; I started on at length; I heard a shout behind; I had many thoughts what to do; to leave my horses, that I thought would not do, to ride on and lose my load, that I could not agree to. The shouts still continued. At length I saw an Indian (Thick Leg or McKee) on the run after me. I got off the horse, set my gun down by my side and was righting the load on my horse. The Indian came near, set his gun against a tree, his tomahawk in his hand. He said, 'How do brudder!' I said, 'How do!' also. He said, 'Where you come from?' I said, 'From Pittsburgh!' He said, 'Anybody killed?' I said 'No!' I then asked him where he came from. He said 'Nango' (Fort Franklin), and was going to Slippery Rock to get deer meat. I asked him if he would take a dram. He said 'Yes!' I out with my bottle, we drank each a dram. I asked him would he take some bread. He said, 'Yes!' I gave him half a loaf and we parted. I went on; crossed Sandy Creek; it became dark; I lost the path, tied up my horses and laid down to sleep. In the morning the turkeys awoke me with their gobbling. I then got up and went to Franklin. The officer with about twenty-five or thirty men, was on the start to Lake Erie; I had then to repair my burned harness, which took me two or three days."

Mr. Van Horne, together with Thomas Ray and William Gregg, leaving Lansing sick at Fort Franklin, came on to the Mead settlement, staying one night on the way at the cabin of the last mentioned pioneer, where they shelled a sack full of Gregg's corn, which they ground the following day in David Mead's mill, on French Creek. On the 5th day of May, 1791, Van Horne, Ray and Gregg took their guns and went to plant corn in a field on a point of land above the confluence of the Cussewago with French Creek, and lying between those streams. The morning passed without incident, and on the approach of noon, Van Horne concluded to continue plowing, while Ray and Gregg went to the block-house for dinner, they agreeing to fetch his meal to the field. Shortly after they left him, his horses exhibited symptoms of uneasiness, and looking about to ascertain the cause, discovered two Indians running toward him with hostile intent. Before he could escape, the foremost one had thrown down the bow and arrows which he carried, and with uplifted tomahawk rushed upon him. Van Horne grabbed the weapon, and by superior strength and agility prevented the savage from striking. By this time the other Indian had reached the scene of action, and laying down his gun attempted to strike Van Horne with his tomahawk, but the latter used the first savage as a sheld and thus gave him no opportunity for a blow. The Indian then picked up his gun to shoot Van Horne, when the latter pleaded for his life, which the savages promised to spare if he would go with them and stop hallooing for help. He gladly agreed to the proposition and assisted the Indians to unhitch the horses, each of whom mounted one of the animals and rode off, while the prisoner ran between them. They crossed the Cussewago, near where Shryock's mill-dam now stands, and passed west up the ravine; thence ascended the hill where they met two more Indians. Here Van Horne surrendered his knife and powder horn to the Indian who first attacked him, and, after binding their captive securely, they qustioned him as to the number of his comrades and obtained the facts. Leaving him in charge of the oldest Indian, the other three returned to the field where Van Horne was captured.

After waiting for his companions nearly an hour, Van Horne's guard bade

him mount one of the horses while he mounted the other, and thus rode off in the direction of Conneaut Lake. In due time they came to that beautiful sheet of water, which Van Horne had never seen before, and crossing the outlet dismounted about where the borough of Evansburg now stands. The Indian tied Van Horne, in a sitting posture, to a sapling, his arms having remained bound during the entire journey. Here the prisoner was left by the Indian as he supposed securely bound, while he retraced his steps to see if his comrades were coming. Van Horne made up his mind to try and escape, so taking out a small, dull knife, picked up the day previous near Mead's mill, and which had lain concealed in his pocket, he tried to sharpen it on the key of his chest, which the Indians had left in his possession. Rising to his feet he managed to cut the cord that fastened him to the sapling, and recrossing the outlet, ran down that stream until he came to a path which led him to the site of Mercer Street bridge on French Creek, where he had a small nursery planted in the bottom. Strange to say, instead of seeking a place of safety by further flight, he deliberately began pulling the weeds from around his trees, for fear fire would get into the flats and destroy them. While engaged at this work he heard some one from the opposite side of French Creek calling him, but feared to reply. A second call, however, made the voice familiar and it proved to be John Fredebaugh, a soldier in Ensign John Jeffers' company, who with thirty men and three Indians had come from Lake Erie that day, where he had been in search of some Indian traders, who, in violation of the law, he learned were doing business in that vicinity. Van Horne got across the creek with much difficulty, and with Fredebaugh repaired to "Mead's Block-house," where he met Ensign Jeffers, to whom he related the story of his capture and escape, while in the meantime the thongs binding his arms were cut and he was once more free.

The officer ordered out sentries and sent men over to the island to bring in the horses, and started the same evening for Fort Franklin. He tried to persuade Van Horne to go with them, but the latter was determined to learn the fate of his companions, and collect a few articles he wanted before going. He induced the officer to leave two of the friendly Indians, Thick Leg and George Gelway with him, and they passed the night under some oak trees in what is now the eastern part of Meadville. In the morning Van Horne and the two Indians went to the field where he had been captured the previous day, and found the dinner brought him by Ray and Gregg, out of which he made his breakfast, but could find no trace of his companions of the previous day. Putting his few goods into a canoe, Van Horne and Thick Leg paddled down to Fort Franklin. Gelway took charge of one of Ensign Jeffers' horses, that could not be found the previous evening, and putting Van Horne's saddle on the animal, agreed to ride to the fort, but the temptation was too strong for his Indian cupidity; he went to the west, and Gelway or the horse was never seen again in this region. In about a week's time Van Horne returned in a canoe to Mead's grist-mill, accompanied by an Indian and squaw, for the purpose of grinding some eight or ten bushels of corn stored in that building belonging to David Mead, and took the meal back to the fort.

A short time after the capture of Van Horne, his partners, Thomas Ray and William Gregg, returned to the field with his dinner and two additional horses, but could see no sign of Van Horne or his team. On looking around they discovered three Indians, and dropping the dinner-pail started on the run for "Mead's Block-house," with the savages in close pursuit, but just after crossing the Cussewago, a short distance above its confluence with French Creek, the Indians fired, and Gregg was shot through the thigh. Finding himself

unable to retreat any farther, he sat down on a log by the edge of the stream, and called upon Ray for assistance, who being unwilling to abandon his friend, returned to his side. Both seem to have become panic-stricken, or they might easily have defended themselves against the savages. One of the Indians on coming up and seeing Gregg wounded, took from him his loaded gun and shot him through the head with the weapon. The savage then scalped his victim, and leaving the body where it fell, the three bound Ray, mounted him on one of the horses aud retraced their steps, following the trail taken by Van Horne and his guard, but on meeting the latter were informed that the prisoner had escaped. It is a singular fact that Van Horne's escape was the means of saving Ray's life, for his captors told Ray that from the smallness of their party they could not be incumbered with more than one prisoner, and as they had promised to spare Van Horne's life, had intended to destroy his; but now as their first captive had escaped, he should be their prisoner.

Ray was taken to the Indian towns on the Sandusky River; thence to Detroit where there was a garrison of English soldiers, and whence the agents of that government carried on their devilish intrigues with the Western tribes, distributing whisky and food supplies, also munitions of war to be used against the American forces and the struggling settlers scattered throughout the territory lying northwest of the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers. Having arrived at this post, and while sitting bound within the fort among a number of other captives, Ray fancied that he recognized, wearing the uniform of an English officer, a companion of his youthful days. In speaking of this event afterward he used to say: "I spoke his name half by random, half from memory, when the officer looked at me, but said nothing." After the Indians had left the prisoners, the officer approached Ray and it turned out that his surmises were correct, and that he and the officer, Capt. White, were schoolmates in Scotland, their native land, but had not seen each other for many years. The Captain purchased the prisoner from the Indians for two gallons of whisky, furnished him with money and shipped him on a schooner to Buffalo. There he met Stripe Neck, the old Mohawk chief, who piloted him safely to Fort Franklin, but his wife and family having removed to Pittsburgh, he joined them there and was received with great joy, for they had given up all hope of ever seeing him again. Ray and family subsequently returned to Crawford County, and completed his settlement on the east bank of French Creek, in the northwest corner of Mead Township, dying upon the soil to secure which he had passed through so much.

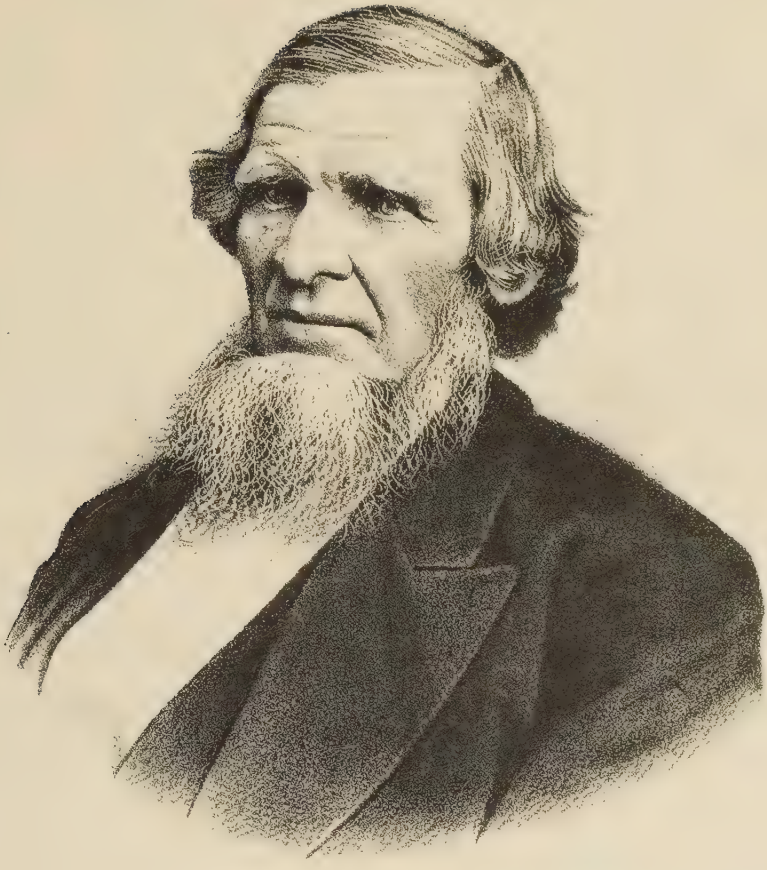
The same season (1791) Darius Mead, father of David and John Mead, was captured by two Indians, while plowing in a field close to Fort Franklin, whither the settlers of French Creek had taken refuge during those perilous days. His body and that of Capt. Bull, a Delaware chief, were found the next day near Shenango Creek, in Mercer County, by Conewyando, a friendly Seneca chief, who sent his daughter to the fort to notify the dead man's friends of the event. Bull professed to be a friendly Indian, though the whites suspected his fidelity. From appearances it was conjectured that Mead, in an effort to escape, had got possession of Bull's knife sometime during the night and killed him with it, but after a fierce struggle was in turn killed by the other Indian. It was, however, deemed probable that the latter was very severely wounded, from the fact of him leaving Bull unburied; and it was subsequently reported that he too had died from the wounds received in the fight with the brave old pioneer. Two soldiers, John Ray and Luke Hill, were sent by the officer at Fort Franklin to bury the victims, and on reaching the spot found the bodies of Mead and the Indian side by side, and buried them where they fell.

The foregoing account of this event was taken principally from Mr. Alfred Hulidekoper's "Incidents in the Early History of Crawford County." In the Van Horne manuscript a somewhat different account is given. It says that John Wentworth and Samuel Lord followed the trail of Darius Mead and the Indians from near Forth Franklin to the vicinity of Conneaut Lake, where they found the bodies of Mead and one of the savages. They continued on the trail of the remaining Indian whom they discovered in a dense thicket badly wounded. On seeing the two scouts the savage uttered a cry of despair. Wentworth deliberately drew his keen hunting knife, and approaching the Indian stabbed him to the heart, thus avenging the killing of Mead.

The years 1790 and 1791 are memorable in the annals of Western warfare for the defeat by the Indians, of two American armies, the first under Gen. Harmar, in October, 1790, and the second under Gov. St. Clair, in November, 1791, the latter being nearly annihilated. These defeats left almost the entire territory west of the Allegheny River to the dominion of the savage. Consequently, during the greater part of 1791 and 1792, the settlements on French Creek were nearly abandoned. No one resided here permanently except in the fall and winter of 1791, when a Sergeant with fifteen men from Fort Franklin did guard duty, while few visited the region, except surveyors and occasional scouting parties. Late in 1792, and early in the following year, many of the settlers, whose fears had somewhat subsided, returned to their lands, and were soon joined by about twenty others from the Susquehanna; but in the spring of 1793, the faithful Flying Cloud again warned them of a proposed attack, and once more the settlers abandoned the valley for the more secure neighborhood of Fort Franklin.

In the meantime the settlers had again applied to the Government for protection, and Ensign Lewis Bond, with a company of twenty-four men, was detailed in the spring of 1793 for that purpose. Their quarters were at the house of David Mead, which stood near the site of James E. McFarland's residence, on Water Street, Meadville. This building, known as "Mead's Block-house," consisted of a double log dwelling house, surrounded by a stockade, and so enfiladed as to be capable of defense against the Indians. It faced down Water Street, the line of the old Indian trace to Franklin, while a cannon in the northeast corner of the enclosure pointed northward, thus commanding French Creek and the approaches from that direction. Ensign Bond's company was soon required to join the main army, then organizing under Gen. Wayne at Fort Washington (Cincinnati); and having no protection, and every effort of the settlers to cultivate their lands being absolutely at the risk of their lives, prudence would seem to require them to remain at Fort Franklin. But so uncompromising was the determination of many of the more resolute not to abandon their homes, that in defiance of the dangers which beset them, they again returned, and in small bands remained clearing and tilling their farms. A company of fifteen volunteers, under Cornelius Van Horne, was raised by order of Gen. Wilkins, and assisted in protecting the settlement from October until the end of December, 1793. Such, however, was the almost constant dread for the safety of the women and children that they were all instructed to remain inside or in the vicinity of the stockade, which enclosed two or three log cabins, besides "Mead's Block-house." Subsequent events proved the wisdom of these precautions against a wily and treacherous foe.

On the 10th of August, 1794, James Dickson, a native of Scotland (familiarly known as "Scotch Jimmy"), and a pioneer to French Creek, was passing along the path that ran up the east bank of the stream in search of his cows,



Frances Brawley.

and upon reaching the spot near where the barn of Hon. William Reynolds now stands, heard a noise in the bushes, and thinking it was a deer, and being armed with his trusty rifle, he stood still so as to secure a good shot as soon as the animal should appear. While thus waiting three guns were discharged at him, one ball struck him in the left hip, one in the right shoulder, and a third passed through his left hand. Discovering the barrel of another rifle pointed from the bushes, he instantly leveled his gun to shoot, but at that moment his hidden foe fired, the ball passing through Dickson's hat and grazing the top of his head. The brave Scot stood his ground and shouted to the savages: "Come out you cowardly dogs and fight me fair." Two Indians, tomahawk in hand, immediately sprang from their hiding place, but the fear of the Scotchman's rifle soon caused them to seek protection behind trees, one to his right and the other to his left, thus intending to attack him from both quarters at once, and get between him and the village. Dickson concluded to reserve his fire knowing that therein lay his only safety, and by menacing each in turn he managed to keep them at bay, one of whom, however, had in the meantime loaded his gun and again fired at the Scotchman, but missed. The Indians fearing a rescue party from "Mead's Block-house," soon gave up the battle and disappeared in the forest, leaving the hardy pioneer victor of the field. He at once started for the village, but ere reaching the little cluster of cabins which then comprised Meadville, he met Samuel Lord, John Wentworth, Luke Hill and Flying Cloud, coming to his assistance. This party pursued the savages, but the latter had made good their escape, and were not overtaken. Mr. Dickson, wounded and bleeding, reached the cabin where his wife and children were living, and after washing off the blood that covered him, was with difficulty restrained by his wife and friends from joining in the pursuit, as he said: "I want revenge on the bloody rascals." His son, now the venerable Joseph Dickson, still living in Meadville, was then only four years old, and he says: "I well remember seeing my father coming into the cabin, his clothes covered with blood, which streamed from his wounds, and I also remember how much trouble my mother had to keep him from following the Indians." Mr. Dickson when speaking of the fight always claimed that at one time when about to fire at the Indians, he distinctly heard a voice saying: "Dinna shoot! Dinna shoot! Dinna be afraid, they canna kill ye." The bullet received in his shoulder during this conflict, remained in his body until his death, some thirty years afterward.

The day following the wounding of James Dickson, Flying Cloud offered his son to carry a message to Fort Le Bœuf (Waterford) asking for a guard. The Indian lad left after sunrise and was back before dark. The next day seven soldiers arrived from the fort, all that could be spared from that point, and took up their quarters at "Mead's Block-house." They did not remain long, however, as it was believed they were more badly needed at Fort Le Bœuf.

By the summer of 1794, most of the old settlers had returned, and new ones had arrived to re enforce the struggling colonists. Many improvements began to make their appearance and the pioneers, by orders of Gen. Gibson, were organized into a military company of which Cornelius Van Horne was commissioned Ensign. This company served from August 4 until December 31, and gave to the settlement the appearance of a military post. Not to be dependent upon uncertain aid from the army, they determined to protect themselves, and in order to more effectually secure the object in view, they carried out the previous recommendation of Andrew Ellicott to the State government by erecting on the northeast corner of Water Street and Steer's Alley, in Meadville, a regularly constructed block-house with the upper story projecting, as

was the style of those primitive defenses. A look-out or sentry box was built on the top to provide against surprise, and in the upper story of the building a cannon was mounted, while in each side of the structure in this story a trap door for port holes was constructed, so that the cannon could be wheeled to each and thus command the approaches from every direction. All these things go to show that the settlers began to feel their strength, and that they were becoming more permanently fixed in their new homes.

Nearly all of the earliest settlers were true backwoodsmen, and were ever ready to undertake the most dangerous missions. About the 1st of August, 1794, a soldier having been killed by the Indians near Fort Franklin, Capt. Heath wrote to Robert Fitz Randolph for some men competent to act as spies. The latter recommended Luke Hill, John Wentworth, John Baum and his son Edward Fitz Randolph, all of whom were pioneers of Crawford County. Edward Fitz Randolph engaged in this dangerous service, and served from the beginning of August to the beginning of September of 1794. So these men were fully competent to defend their homes against the wily savage, and feared no foe of equal numbers.

The crushing defeat inflicted on the Western Indians by Gen. Wayne August 20, 1794, completely crippled their power and left the settlers of western Pennsylvania in comparative quiet. But though beaten and utterly demoralized, they did not entirely desist from their marauding expeditions. In small bands they kept prowling through the forests attacking the frontier settlements of the whites, and they seldom failed to leave bloody marks of the tomahawk and scalping-knife. The last depredation committed by them within the present limits of Crawford County, which resulted in the loss of life, occurred on the 3d of June, 1795. On that day James Findlay and Barnabas McCormick were engaged in making rails about six miles south of Meadville, on the west side of French Creek, near the mouth of Conneaut Outlet; and shots having been heard in that direction by some settlers, search was made for the cause, when the bodies of Findlay and McCormick were found close to the scene of their labors. The Indians had surprised them while at work, and after shooting and scalping the unfortunate men, cut two human figures with other characters in the bark of a tree which stood close to the spot, to illustrate their victory over the pale faces. The bodies were brought to town, placed in one coffin and interred in Meadville Cemetery.

Two days after committing this deed, the same band plundered the camp of William Power, one of the pioneer surveyors of Crawford County. He was then engaged in surveying lands located in what is now South Shenango Township, and had left James Thompson, one of his assistants, in charge of the camp. On the 5th of June, 1795, the Indians suddenly appeared, made a prisoner of Thompson, and scattered the provisions, etc., of the camp in every direction. While a prisoner, Thompson saw the scalps of Findlay and McCormick in possession of the savages, recognizing these ghastly trophies of Indian warfare by the color of the hair. Thompson was taken to Detroit, where he remained a prisoner until after the treaty of Greenville, which was ratified August 3, 1795, when he was released, and subsequently settled north of Cochranton, in East Fairfield Township. For many years the site of Power's camp was known to the settlers as the "White Thorn Corner."

The foregoing were the principal depredations committed by the Indians in this county or on citizens thereof; but the killing of Connelly and Wallace on Sandy Creek, in Venango County, while driving cattle to Pittsburgh, and that of Ralph Rutledge and his sixteen-year-old son on the site of Erie, in the spring of 1795, demonstrates that scattered bands of savages were roaming all

over northwestern Pennsylvania, seeking revenge for their terrible defeat the previous autumn. All of those murders were committed by Indians belonging to the Ohio tribes, as was fully proven by their own boasting to the English soldiers, in the presence of some American captives, after arriving at Detroit with the scalps of their victims. The power of the Indian confederacy in Ohio was, however, broken, and though in later years alarms were often sounded, they proved groundless. New emigrants were constantly arriving to occupy and clear up lands, and the county progressed rapidly in wealth and population.

CHAPTER VI.

NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA—FORMATION OF COUNTIES—TERRITORY EMBRACED IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY—ERECTION OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, AND LOCATION OF THE SEAT OF JUSTICE AT MEADVILLE—SURROUNDING COUNTIES ERECTED AND TEMPORARILY ATTACHED TO CRAWFORD FOR JUDICIAL PURPOSES—THE MERCER AND ERIE COUNTY BOUNDARY LINES ESTABLISHED—BIOGRAPHY OF COL. WILLIAM CRAWFORD AFTER WHOM THE COUNTY WAS NAMED—HIS USEFUL CAREER AND CRUEL DEATH—LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES OF CRAWFORD COUNTY—TOWNSHIPS—SIZE, AREA AND GENERAL APPEARANCE—POPULATION STATISTICS—FRENCH CREEK—THE STREAM AS A HIGHWAY OF NAVIGATION—NEW CHANNEL AT MEADVILLE—ITS TRIBUTARIES—CUSSEWAGO AND OTHER STREAMS—OIL CREEK—CONNEAUT CREEK—SHENANGO AND CROOKED CREEK—LAKE CONNEAUT—OIL CREEK LAKE—SUGAR LAKE.

THE territory embraced in northwestern Pennsylvania was nominally attached to Bedford County, which was formed from Cumberland, March 9, 1771, until the erection of Westmoreland from the former, February 26, 1873, toward which county said territory afterward held the same relation; but, upon its acquisition from the Indians by the treaties of Forts Stanwix and McIntosh, it was legally attached to Wetmoreland County by the act of April 8, 1785, being described in said act as "a part of the late purchase from the Indians." On the 28th of March, 1781, Washington County was created out of a part of Westmoreland; and September 24, 1788, Allegheny County was erected from portions of Westmoreland and Washington, and its boundaries defined as follows:

> Beginning at the mouth of Flaherty's Run, on the south side of the Ohio River; from thence by a straight line to the plantation on which Joseph Scott, Esq., now lives on Montour's Run, to include the same; from thence by a straight line to the mouth of Miller's Run, on Chartier's Creek; thence by a straight line to the mouth of Perry's Mill Run, on the east side of the Monongahela River; thence up the said river to the mouth of Becket's Run; thence by a straight line to the mouth of Sewickly Creek, on Youghiogheny River; thence down the said river to the mouth of Crawford's Run; thence by a straight line to the mouth of Brush Creek, on Turtle Creek; thence up Turtle Creek to the main fork thereof; thence by a northerly line until it strikes Puckety's Creek; thence down the said creek to the Allegheny River; thence up the Allegheny River to the northern boundary of the State; thence along the same to the western boundary of the State; thence south along the same to the River Ohio; and thence up the same to the place of beginning; to be henceforth known and by the name of Allegheny County.

On the 12th of March, 1800, the Legislature passed an act erecting the Counties of Beaver, Butler, Mercer, Crawford, Erie, Warren, Venango and Armstrong, from territory previously embraced in Allegheny, Westmoreland, Washington and Lycoming Counties. The territory composing Crawford

County was taken from Allegheny, and the following boundary lines established:

Beginning at the northeast corner of Mercer County (which is the north line of Fifth Donation District), thence upon a course north forty-five degrees east till it intersects the north line of the Sixth Donation District; thence eastwardly along the said line ten miles; thence at a right angle to the said line northerly to the north line of the Eighth Donation District; thence westwardly along the said line to the western boundary of the State; thence southerly along the said boundary to the northwest corner of Mercer County; thence eastwardly along the north line of Mercer County to the place of beginning, shall be and the same is hereby erected into a separate county to be henceforth called Crawford County, and the place of holding the courts of justice in and for the said county shall be at Meadville: *Provided* the inhabitants or proprietors of Meadville and its vicinity subscribe and secure the payment of $4,000 to the trustees of the county, either in specie or land at a reasonable valuation, within four months of the passing of this act for the use of a seminary of learning within said county; and in case of neglect or refusal the trustees shall, and they are hereby authorized to fix on the seat of justice at any place within four miles of Meadville. And the Governor shall, and he is hereby empowered to appoint three Commissioners, any two of which shall run and ascertain and plainly mark the boundary lines of the said county of Crawford, and shall receive as a full compensation for their services therein the sum of $2 for every mile so run and marked, to be paid out of the moneys which shall be raised for the county uses within the county of Crawford.

By the same act Armstrong County was, for judicial purposes, provisionally attached to Westmoreland; Butler and Beaver were placed under the jurisdiction of Allegheny; "and the counties of Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Warren and Erie shall form one county under the name of Crawford County." The sparsely settled condition of northwestern Pennsylvania at that period rendered this course necessary for the government of these counties until such time as the population had sufficiently increased to justify separate organizations. Three trustees were appointed by the act for each of the newly erected counties, those for Crawford being David Mead, Frederick Haymaker and James Gibson. On the 2d of April, 1803, Erie and Mercer were organized as separate and distinct counties, Venango April 1, 1805, and Warren March 16, 1819.

A part of the line between Crawford and Mercer Counties was slightly changed, by an act passed March 28, 1808, for the convenience of certain citizens living on said line who petitioned the General Assembly for that purpose, and in compliance with said petition the following line was run:

Beginning at the northwest corner of a certain tract of donation land, known by its No. 1078, situated on the northwest corner of a section of the Fifth Donation District; thence southwardly by a tract of land on which Joseph Burson now resides, 154 perches to a birch tree, the southeast corner of the said tract; thence by the same westwardly to an ironwood tree, the southeast corner of a tract of land on which Alexander Caldwell now resides; and thence in the same direction from the southeast corner of one tract to the southeast corner of the next, to the western boundary of the State, anything in any other law to the contrary notwithstanding.

The true boundary line between Crawford and Erie Counties was long a subject of dispute, and to settle the question the Legislature passed an act at the session of 1849–50, providing for three Commissioners to run a new line. This board was given full power to act, and its decision was to be final. In 1850 Humphrey A. Hills, of Albion, was appointed Commissioner for Erie County, Andrew Ryan, for Crawford County, and these two selected H. P. Kinnear, of Warren County, as the third member of the board. Wilson King and Mr. Jagger were chosen as surveyors, the former on behalf of Erie County, and the latter of Crawford, but David Wilson, as deputy for King, did most of the work. The Commissioners experienced some difficulty in finding a starting point, but after this was agreed upon, the survey was completed in about six weeks. A perfectly straight line was run from east to west, and marked

by stones set two miles apart. When the survey was finished, a number of citizens who supposed they resided in Crawford County, found themselves in Erie, while some who thought they lived in the latter county were thrown into Crawford. This caused a little dissatisfaction among a few of the settlers thus affected, but the feeling soon subsided, as all were compelled to accept the result accomplished under the law.

As this county was named in honor of Col. William Crawford, the friend of Washington, and one of the most distinguished frontiersmen of Western Pennsylvania, it will be but proper that a brief biography of him should appear in the pages of this work. He was born in 1732, in Orange (now Berkeley) County, Va., his parents being of Irish extraction. His father, a respectable farmer, died when William was four years old, leaving another son, Valentine, younger than our subject. His mother, Onora, was a woman of uncommon energy of character, possessed of great physical strength, and kind and attentive to her children. She married for her second husband Richard Stephenson, to whom she bore five boys and one girl: John, Hugh, Richard, James, Marcus, and Elizabeth, the last mentioned dying young. The seven boys were all remarkable for their size and physical prowess. In 1749 the youthful George Washington became acquainted with the family, and it was while surveying in the Shenandoah Valley that his acquaintance with William Crawford ripened into a friendship that lasted until the cruel death of the latter more than thirty years afterward. Our subject learned surveying from Washington, which in connection with farming he followed until 1755, when he received an Ensign's commission in a company of Virginia riflemen, and served with Washington under Gen. Braddock, in the ill-fated and disastrous battle with the French near Fort DuQuesne, on the 9th of July, 1755. For gallantry and meritorious conduct on this occasion Ensign Crawford was promoted to a lieutenancy.

In 1758, Washington, the Commander-in-chief of the Virginia forces, obtained for Lieut. Crawford a Captain's commission, and thereupon he recruited a company of hardy frontiersmen for Washington's regiment, and was with the command at the occupation of Fort DuQuesne, November 25, 1758, the French having evacuated the post on the approach of the army under Gen. Forbes. Capt. Crawford remained in the service of Virginia three years, then returned to his home in the valley of the Shenandoah, where he was engaged in farming for the succeeding six years.

Early in 1767, he started out to find a new location, and having selected land on the south side of the Youghiogheny River, built a log cabin where the village of New Haven now stands, in the northern part of Fayette County, Penn., which was at that time on the extreme frontier, all around being one vast wilderness. He had previously married Hannah Vance, and was the father of three children—Sarah, John and Effie, who with their mother remained behind in Virginia. His half brother, Hugh, who was also married, soon joined him, but it was not till 1769 that the brothers were enabled to bring their families to their new homes on the banks of the Youghiogheny. Here Capt. Crawford resided, except when in the service of his country, until the campaign against Sandusky, which ended in his death. His home was known among the pioneers far and wide as "Crawford's Place," being a famous tarrying-place for new comers to the valley. The site of his homestead was also called "Stewart's Crossings," from the fact of there having been located here in 1753–54, the Indian trading post of William Stewart, who left upon the coming of the French in the spring of the latter year.

With the growth of the settlement, Capt. Crawford fell into his natural

place as a leader in the public affairs of the community. At the request of Washington he selected and surveyed a tract of land for him, some twelve miles from his own, and on the 13th of October, 1770, Washington visited Capt. Crawford's home, and remained three days exploring the surrounding country. In company with a party of friends they then went to Fort Pitt; thence descended the Ohio in a large canoe, as far as the Great Kanawha River, visiting the Indian village at Mingo Bottom, on the route going and returning. Horses having been brought from Capt. Crawford's home to Mingo Bottom, the party returned by land from that point. During the whole journey Washington and Crawford were inseparable companions. On the 25th of November, Washington took his final departure for Mount Vernon, and never again visited the home of his friend on the Youghiogheny.

In 1771, Capt. Crawford was appointed by Gov. Penn, a Justice of the Peace for Bedford County, and upon the erection of Westmoreland, in 1773, he was made Presiding Justice of the courts of that county. He took an active part in "Dunmore's war," in 1774, received a Captain's commission from Lord Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, and raising a company to fight against the Indians, marched to Fort Pitt, which had been seized from Pennsylvania the previous year, by the Virginia troops, and named Fort Dunmore. Though a prominent actor in "Dunmore's war," Capt. Crawford was not present at the battle of Point Pleasant, his operations being devoted to the protection of the frontier settlements. For the part he took in this war, and his siding with Virginia against the peace policy of Gov. Penn, he was removed from all public positions held by him in Westmoreland County. Capt. Crawford now fully transferred his allegiance to his native State, and never again held office by Pennsylvania authority. He played a leading part on behalf of Virginia, in the boundary troubles which arose between these colonies, and from 1776 to the beginning of 1780, held the position of Deputy Surveyor and Land-officer in Youghiogheny County, Va., being also one of the Justices of that county at intervals during the same period.

In the meantime a momentous event occurred, the Declaration of Independence had been sent forth to the world, and from the first Capt. Crawford was one of the foremost in advocating the rights and liberties of America. He tendered to Virginia his services, in the fall of 1775, to raise a regiment for the defense of the colonies. His offer was accepted, and the regiment raised, but Congress having decided to accept only six Virginia regiments into pay on the continental establishment, and in the organization and consolidation of the several regiments, Capt. Crawford failed to obtain a colonelcy, which his patriotism and abilities merited. On the 12th of January, 1776, he was commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fifth Virginia Regiment, and on the 11th of October following, Colonel of the Seventh Regiment of the Virginia battalion. He participated in the Long Island campaign, and the famous retreat through New Jersey; crossed the Delaware with Washington, and commanded his regiment at the battles of Trenton and Princeton. He served continuously under Washington up to the fall of 1777, rendering important services while in command of a picked detachment of scouts detailed to watch the movements of the enemy during Howe's advance upon Philadelphia.

Col. Crawford having expressed his fears to Washington of an Indian attack upon the settlements around Fort Pitt, these representations were communicated by the latter to Congress, and two regiments were ordered to be raised on the frontiers of Pennsylvania and Virginia for their defense, the latter State responding with a full regiment, and the former with several companies. In

November, 1777, Congress requested Washington to send Col. William Crawford to Pittsburgh to take command, under Brig.-Gen. Hand, of the continental troops and militia in the Western Department; whereupon Col. Crawford repaired to York, Penn., where Congress was then in session, received his instructions and soon after departed for his new field of operations. In May, 1778, he took command of the Virginia regiment under Brig.-Gen. McIntosh, the successor of Hand, and his first active service was the erection of Fort Crawford, a stockade fort on the south side of the Allegheny River, a short distance above the mouth of Puckety Creek, where he commanded at intervals for some three years. Col. Crawford was second in command under Gen. McIntosh in the proposed expedition against Detroit, in the fall of 1778, which only resulted in the erection of Forts McIntosh and Laurens, both of which he occasionally visited on official business until their abandonment late in the following summer. Before the close of the year 1779, Col. Crawford had led several small parties into the wilderness in pursuit of the bands of Indian depredators infesting the whole region, and in these expeditions he was usually successful.

In all future operations against the savage foe, up to the time of his death, Col. Crawford was a leading spirit, and in raising volunteers and giving advice his services were invaluable. He visited Congress in 1780 to urge upon that body a more effectual and energetic defense of the frontiers. He had often expressed himself in favor of an expedition against the Indian town of Sandusky, located in what is now Wyandot County, Ohio; and had tried to raise a force for its destruction, but failed for the want of supplies.

Col. Crawford was placed upon the retired list in the Continental line in the fall of 1781, and returned to his home on the Youghiogheny, with the hope of spending the balance of his life in peaceful avocations. His three children were married and living in the vicinity of the old homestead. Sarah, the eldest, was the wife of Maj. William Harrison, a man of great spirit and considerable distinction among the pioneers of the valley; John, the only son, was the idol of his father, "a young man," wrote Hugh H. Brackenridge, in 1782, "greatly and deservedly esteemed as a soldier and citizen;" and Effie, the youngest, was married to William McCormick.

Hostilities still continued between the frontiersmen and the western Indians, and a spirit of bitter retaliation was the predominant feeling on both sides. In the spring of 1782, Col. Crawford, who yet held his commission in the regular army, was earnestly urged by many leading men to take command of the expedition then organizing against Sandusky, and together with his son, John, and son-in-law, Maj. Harrison, volunteered to go. He left his home on the 18th of May, and after a consultation with Gen. Irvine at Pittsburgh, proceeded down the river to the Mingo Bottom, the place of rendezvous. On the 24th of May, Col. Crawford was chosen by the volunteers as the Commander-in-chief of the expedition, and on the following morning the whole command, consisting of 480 mounted men, began its march from the Mingo Bottom, located in what is now Jefferson County, Ohio. Passing through the territory now embraced in the counties of Jefferson, Harrison, Tuscarawas, Holmes, Ashland, Richland and Crawford, to the center of Wyandot, the command reached a point on the Sandusky Plains, some three miles and a half northeast of the present town of Upper Sandusky, where in and around a grove, since well known as "Battle Island," Col. Crawford was furiously attacted by the Indians on the afternoon of June 4, 1782. As night came on the advantage remained with the Americans, the Indians being beaten at every point. The next day desultory firing was indulged in by both sides, but no

general engagement ensued. As the afternoon advanced, the Indians were re-enforced by a detachment of an English mounted regiment called "Butler's Rangers," while bands of savages were constantly arriving to swell the numbers of the enemy.

Upon discovering that his small force was greatly outnumbered, Col. Crawford called a council of his officers, which decided to retreat during the night, but no sooner had the retrograde movement commenced, than it was discovered by the Indians, who at once opened a hot fire. The retreat, however, continued, with the enemy in close pursuit, and, on the afternoon of June 6, another battle was fought, which again resulted in favor of the Americans. The British Light-horse and mounted Indians hung on the Americans' rear, firing occasionally, until the morning of the 7th, when the pursuit was abandoned, the last hostile shot being fired near where the village of Crestline now stands. The little army thence made its way to the Mingo Bottom without further molestation, arriving at that place on the 13th of June. It immediately crossed the Ohio River, where the tired troops went into camp, and on the following day were discharged.

In the darkness and confusion attending the beginning of the retreat, several small parties became separated from the main body of the troops, and the soldiers composing these were, with a rare exception, killed or captured by the savages, who scattered through the forest for the purpose of cutting off stragglers. All of the captured were put to death excepting Dr. John Knight, and John Slover, the guide, both of whom escaped after being condemned to be burnt at the stake. Among the many who thus fell into the hands of the savages were Col. Crawford, his son-in-law, Maj. Harrison, and his nephew William Crawford. The two last mentioned were taken by the Shawnees to Wapatomica, one of their towns on Mad River, in what is now Logan County, Ohio, and squibbed to death with powder. But all the punishment that savage hate and devilish malignity could invent was reserved for the unfortunate leader of the expedition. Col. Crawford was captured by the Delawares, whose principal chiefs, Capt. Pipe and Wingenund, decided to burn him at the stake. He was taken to a spot three-quarters of a mile from the Delaware village on the east bank of Tymochtee Creek, some eight miles northwest of where now stands the county seat of Wyandot County, Ohio. Here on the 11th of June, 1782, the victim was stripped naked, his hands bound behind his back, and a rope fastened—one end to the ligature between his wrist, and the other to the foot of a post about fifteen feet high. The rope was long enough to allow him to walk around the post twice and back again, the fire being built in a circle around the post, leaving an open space between them.

According to the testimony of Dr. Knight, who was an unwilling spectator of the terrible scene, having been captured with Col. Crawford, the Indians began the torture about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, first discharging about seventy loads of powder into the victim's body, and then cut off his ears. After this the faggots were lighted, and for more than three hours the unfortunate man walked around the stake within the circle of fire. Burning sticks were continually applied to his naked flesh already burnt black with powder, and which ever way he turned the same fate met him. Live coals and hot embers were thrown upon him by the squaws, until the space in which he walked was one bed of fire and scorching ashes. In the midst of his awful sufferings Col. Crawford begged of Simon Girty, the Tory renegade, who was present at the execution, to shoot him, but that white savage laughed at his misery. At last the victim's strength gave out and he laid down, when an Indian ran in and scalped him, and an old squaw threw coals of fire upon his bleeding head.

Hiram L. Richmond

After Col. Crawford expired, the burning faggots were piled together and his body placed upon them, and around his charred remains danced the delighted savages for hours.

When the news of the event reached the Pennsylvania and Virginia settlements, a gloom was spread on every countenance, and Col. Crawford's melancholy end was lamented by all who knew him; while heart-rending was the anguish of the widow, in the lonely cabin on the bank of the Youghiogheny. The language of Washington, upon this occasion, in a letter to Gov. Moore, of Pennsylvania, shows the depth of his feeling toward his friend: "It is with the greatest sorrow and concern," said he, "that I have learned the melancholy tidings of Col. Crawford's death. He was known to me as an officer of much care and prudence; brave, experienced and active. The manner of his death was shocking to me; and I have this day communicated to the Honorable, the Congress, such papers as I have regarding it." There was no man on the frontier at that time, whose loss could have been more sensibly felt or more keenly deplored.

Crawford is one of the northwest counties of Pennsylvania, and is bounded on the north by Erie County, on the east by Warren and Venango, on the south by Mercer and Venango, and on the west by the State of Ohio. It is divided into thirty-four townships as follows: Athens, Beaver, Bloomfield, Cambridge, Conneaut, Cussewago, East Fairfield, East Fallowfield, Fairfield, Greenwood, Hayfield, Mead, North Shenango, Oil Creek, Pine, Randolph, Richmond, Rockdale, Rome, Sadsbury, South Shenango, Sparta, Spring, Steuben, Summerhill, Summit, Troy, Union, Venango, Vernon, Wayne, West Fallowfield, West Shenango and Woodcock, all of which will be found fully spoken of under their respective and proper headings in this work. The county is 46 miles long from east to west on its northern boundary; is 24 miles south along the Ohio line; thence due east, with one slight jog, 25½ miles, to a point a short distance east of French Creek; thence northeast by a series of nine jogs, 11½ miles in an air line; thence east 11 miles to the Warren County line; thence due north 15 miles to the line of Erie County. It contains, according to Johnson's Encyclopedia, 975 square miles, or 624,000 acres; while other authorities give 1,005 square miles of territory, or 643,200 acres. It is abundantly supplied with excellent water, and its streams have always afforded admirable sites for all classes of mills. Crawford originally possessed as great a variety of large and valuable timber as perhaps any other county in the State. Along its streams are rich and productive valleys, which were covered with stately trees when the pioneers first penetrated its forest depths. The surface is interspersed by hill and valley, with very little untillable land, excepting the marshes, in the county, and while its soil is adapted for cereals, stock-raising and dairying have, doubtless, proven the most profitable.

The growth of population and wealth has been steady and substantial, which without doubt is largely owing to the beauty of its natural scenery and the fertility of its soil. In 1800 the county contained a population of 2,346; 1810, 6,178; 1820, 9,379; 1830, 16,030; 1840, 31,724; 1850, 37,849; 1860, 48,755; 1870, 63,832; 1880, 68,607. The following official census table of the townships, borough, and cities will more thoroughly illustrate the growth of every portion of the county. The reader will bear in mind, however, that the apparent decrease in the population of some of the townships during the several decades since 1850, was caused by the erection of new townships or boroughs, and that there has been no real decrease except in a few of the smaller towns.

TOWNSHIPS AND BOROUGHS.	1850.	1860.	1870.	1880.
Athens Township	928	1,192	1,317	1,419
Beaver Township	672	1,090	1,177	1,136
Bloomfield Township	838	1,356	1,262	1,491
Blooming Valley Borough	.....	.....	209	232
Cambridge Township	.....	1,012	747	745
Cambridge Borough	.....	.....	452	674
Centerville Borough	.....	.....	322	307
Cochranton Borough	.....	250	459	645
Conneaut Township	1,807	2,855	1,729	1,601
Conneautville Borough	787	964	1,000	941
Cussewago Township	1,540	1,805	1,674	1,697
East Fallowfield Township	739	1,226	1,167	1,306
East Fairfield Township	.....	.....	741	748
Evansburg Borough	.....	197	174	197
Fairfield Township	1,224	2,027	871	929
Geneva Borough	.....	.....	.....	346
Greenwood Township	1,127	1,729	1,782	1,614
Hartstown Borough	.....	135	188	167
Hayfield Township	1,723	1,867	1,824	1,954
Hydetown Borough	.....	.....	428	405
Linesville Borough	.....	.....	434	550
Mead Township	1,810	2,309	2,421	2,857
Meadville	2,578	3,702	7,103	8,860
First Ward	.....	.....	1,661	2,011
Second Ward	.....	.....	1,961	2,554
Third Ward	.....	.....	1,635	2,190
Fourth Ward	.....	.....	1,846	2,105
North Shenango Township	825	861	901	942
Oil Creek Township	811	1,155	2,041	1,578
Pine Township	702	847	343	385
Randolph Township	1,260	1,597	1,732	1,869
Riceville Borough	.....	306	301	314
Richmond Township	1,139	1,640	1,399	1,490
Rockdale Township	1,086	1,638	1,664	1,603
Rome Township	940	1,051	1,274	1,324
Sadsbury Township	982	839	894	895
Saegertown Borough	.....	352	441	678
South Shenango Township	1,664	1,393	1,042	991
Sparta Township	884	1,019	1,131	1,181
Spartansburg Borough	.....	235	457	486
Spring Township	1,836	905	1,522	1,524
Spring Borough	.....	.....	323	379
Steuben Township	.....	898	1,020	782
Summerhill Township	1,160	1,237	1,232	1,202
Summit Township	1,074	1,147	1,034	1,058
Titusville	243	438	8,639	9,046
First Ward	.....	.....	1,905	2,317
Second Ward	.....	.....	2,334	3,291
Third Ward	.....	.....	2,275	1,547
Fourth Ward	.....	.....	2,125	1,891
Townville Borough	.....	132	280	610
Troy Township	740	954	983	1,327
Turnersville Borough	.....	.....	.....	84
Union Township	.....	.....	622	603
Vallonia Borough	.....	.....	462	528
Venango Township	1,607	985	623	602
Venango Borough	.....	.....	318	347
Vernon Township	1,299	1,553	1,615	1,919
Wayne Township	882	1,320	1,464	1,597
West Fallowfield Township	654	585	503	482
West Shenango Township	.....	.....	357	277
Woodcock Township	2,073	1,865	1,723	1,499
Woodcock Borough	215	228	220	184

The population of the following villages is included in the townships in which they are located: Adamsville, in West Fallowfield Township, 137; Guy's Mills, in Randolph, 150; Kerrtown, in Vernon, 120; Lincolnville, in Bloomfield, 107; and Penn Line, in Conneaut, 75; while the population of the remaining villages of Crawford County is not given in the census reports.

French Creek is a beautiful, transparent, rapid stream, and its ramifications are numerous and overspread a large extent of territory. The French originally called it the River Aux Bœufs, on account of the large number of cattle owned by the Indians which they found grazing in its valley meadows when they first came to the country; but changed the name to the River Venango, a corruption of the Indian word *In-nun-ga-ch*, given it by the Senecas in consequence of finding, on first taking possession of the country after conquering the Eries, "a rude and indecent figure carved upon a tree" which grew near its banks. When the Americans occupied this territory, they discarded both the Indian and French names, and gave the stream the plain appellation of French Creek. The main stream is created by the junction of the East and West Branches, just south of the limits of Wattsburg, Erie County. The East Branch takes its rise near the village of Sherman, in Chautauqua County, N. Y.; and the head of the West Branch is usually said to be Findley's Lake, about two miles over the New York line, in the same county. These streams are each more than twenty miles in length, and were navigable in the beginning of the century for canoes and rafts to the north line of the State, but the erection of dams, and the drying up of the water made Wattsburg in later years the practical head of navigation. South of Waterford the main stream is joined by the South Branch and Le Bœuf Creek. The French regarded the latter as a portion of the main stream, and therefore erected their fort upon it.

French Creek enters Crawford County on the north line of Rockdale Township, and passing through the whole width of the central portion of the county from north to south, leaves its territory near the southwest corner of Wayne Township. After watering the northeast corner of Mercer County and a large portion of Venango, it unites with the Allegheny at Franklin. By the time it reaches the Allegheny, it has become a good-sized stream, which deserves the title of river better than many that figure more prominently on the maps. From its head waters in New York State to its mouth, the general course of French Creek, though in some parts very crooked, is almost a semi-circle. Its length from Wattsburg, where the main stream may be said to begin, to Franklin, cannot be less than 100 miles, though Washington thought it was 130 miles from its mouth to Fort Le Bœuf, which stood near the site of Waterford, on Le Bœuf Creek. In the summer seasons, the stream is usually very shallow, but during the spring and winter freshets it spreads out to a majestic width, covering the bottom lands in every direction, and inundating a large portion of the lower sections of Meadville.

Boats of twenty tons burden have navigated its waters and those of Le Boeuf Creek, as far north as Waterford; and during the French occupation, as well as in early pioneer days, French Creek was the principal highway to the Allegheny. Before the building of good roads it was the chief avenue for bringing goods and provisions into the county. There has been no boating or rafting on the upper branches of French Creek for forty years, while the principal business on the main stream may be said to have suspended about 1862, though occasional boats have since descended the creek. All of the streams in the county were formerly much larger and more reliable than now, and abounded in trout and other fish. Cutting off the timber and the clearing of the land has had an alarming effect in drying-up the streams, and the seasons

of high water, which were once of two or three weeks' duration, now last only a few days. There being no forests to retain the rain, the water runs off very rapidly, causing floods that sometimes do considerable damage.

Immediately above Race Street bridge, which crosses the stream from Meadville to Vallonia, the waters of French Creek originally divided, the main branch making a handsome serpentine bend toward the east, while the west branch takes a semi-circular sweep in the opposite direction, and unites with the main stream just north of the Dock Street bridge, enclosing an island of about sixty acres of rich bottom land. The creek at Meadville is 492 feet above Lake Erie level. The eastern branch was the main channel until the construction of the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad in 1862, when a straight channel was cut through the island into which the main stream was diverted, and the railroad bed built across the upper end of the eastern branch. The latter has since served the purpose of conveying the waste water of the canal into the main stream ; but no material change has occurred in the location of the western branch since the coming of the first settlers nearly one hundred years ago. French Creek will always be an interesting object to the thoughtful traveler, not only on account of the delightful scenery which everywhere abounds in its vicinity, but because it was the line of the chain of forts erected by the French to hold the western country, and from the circumstance that it bore upon its waters the then youthful Washington, when engaged on the first distinguished mission of his life.

Proceeding up French Creek from its mouth, in addition to many small streams, its largest feeders are : Big Sugar Creek, Little Sugar Creek, Mill Run, Woodcock Run, and Muddy Creek on the east ; and on the west Deer Creek, Conneaut Outlet, Cussewago Creek, Big Conneauttee Creek, and Le Bœuf Creek. The last-mentioned stream is in Erie County, and Deer Creek in Mercer, while Big Sugar Creek, though rising in Crawford, is principally located in Venango County.

The Cussewago takes its rise in Spring and Cussewago Townships, flowing south through the latter subdivision; thence passing in a southeasterly direction through Hayfield Township, from north to south it crosses the northeast corner of Vernon, and after traversing some eighteen miles empties into the west branch of French Creek a short distance above its junction with the main channel. It is a very crooked stream, and drains an excellent body of land. Rev. Timothy Alden gives the following tradition regarding its name, which he says he obtained from Cornplanter: A wandering band of Senecas on first coming to the creek, discovered a large black snake, with a white ring around its neck, reposing in the limbs of a tree growing upon the banks of the stream. Their attention was arrested by a protuberance on the reptile, as though it had swallowed an animal as large as a rabbit, and they at once exclaimed *Kos-se-waus-ga!* literally meaning " big belly." This name was retained by the French, though it has since become somewhat Americanized. Mr. Alfred Huidekoper thinks that Cussewago means "big snake," and was so called by the Indians on account of the sinuosity of its course, which much resembles a snake when crawling. His definition seems to us the most plausible, and we are inclined to accept it as the correct one.

Conneaut Outlet is the outlet of Conneaut Lake, from which it takes its name. It flows southeast through Sadsbury Township, and divides Vernon and Union Townships, from Greenwood and Fairfield, striking French Creek at the southeast corner of Union Township. Its principle tributary is Watson's Run, a local stream which drains the west part of Vernon Township.

Big Conneaut Creek rises in Erie County, and flowing through Lake

Conneaut, after which it is named, enters Crawford County on the line between Venango and Cambridge Townships, and joins French Creek where the latter strikes the dividing line of those townships, some distance northwest of Cambridgeboro.

The head waters of Muddy Creek are located in Richmond, Steuben and Athens Townships; thence flowing from the latter northwestwardly across the northeast corner of Richmond Township, passes onward into Rockdale, and unites with French Creek a little south of Miller's Station.

Woodcock Run rises in Randolph Township, crosses the southwest corner of Richmond, and passing through the entire Township of Woodcock, empties into French Creek south of Saegertown.

Mill Run meanders northwest through Mead Township, and after passing through Meadville discharges its waters into the same stream.

Little Sugar Creek has its source in the southern part of Mead Township, crosses the northeast corner of East Fairfield Township into Wayne, and after describing almost a semi-circle, passes back into East Fairfield, emptying into French Creek at Cochranton.

Several branches of Big Sugar Creek take their rise in Troy, Randolph and Wayne Townships, thence passing into Venango County unite and form the main stream, which flowing southward joins French Creek a few miles above its mouth.

Oil Creek drains the whole eastern part of Crawford County. Its headwaters are located in Bloomfield and Sparta Townships, whence it takes a southward course. Oil Creek Lake in Bloomfield Township may be regarded as its principal source of supply, though the East Branch, which rises in Sparta Township and joins the main stream near Centerville, adds much to its size and volume. Soon after passing Tryonville, the stream bears off to the southeast, and upon reaching the county line at Titusville, takes a southern course, soon verging a little to the west, and unites with the Allegheny at Oil City. Its name is derived from the oil springs which exist along its banks, the product of which was gathered at the surface in small quantities and sold at an early day under the name of Seneca Oil, which was supposed to possess valuable curative properties. Oil Creek is thus described in 1789, under the head of "Mineral Water," by Jedediah Morse, of Charlestown, Mass., in *The American Universal Geography:* "Oil Creek, in Allegheny County, one hundred miles above Pittsburgh, issues from a remarkable spring, which boils like the waters of Hell Gate, near New York. On the top of the water floats an oil similar to that called Barbadoes tar. Several gallons may be gathered in a day. It is found very serviceable in rheumatism, in restoring weakness in the stomach, and in curing bruises and sore breasts. When drank, the water of the spring operates as a gentle cathartic. It is gathered by the country people and Indians, boiled and brought to market in bottles, and is deemed a most valuable family medicine." Its principal tributaries are Little Oil Creek, which, rising in Rome Township, flows south and empties into the main stream south of Hydetown; and Pine Creek, which crosses the southeast corner from Venango County, and joins Oil Creek in the southeastern limits of Titusville.

The western portion of the county is principally drained by Conneaut Creek, Shenango Creek and Crooked Creek. The first mentioned rises immediately north of Conneaut Lake, in Summit Township, and flowing northwest through Summerhill Township, passes through the borough of Conneautville; thence onward in the same general direction till it leaves the county near the northwest corner of Spring Township. After continuing a northerly course about

half way across Erie County, it turns abruptly westward, and flows through Ohio for several miles. It then makes a turn and flows northeast, emptying into Lake Erie, where its mouth forms Conneaut Harbor. Conneaut Creek is a very crooked stream, and following its meanders from head to mouth it is fully eighty miles in length, while the distance by an air line is not more than twenty-five. Its principal tributary, which touches this county, is the East Branch, a small stream rising near the Erie County line, and joining the main creek a short distance northeast of the borough of Albion.

Shenango Creek takes its rise in Pymatuning Swamp near the southwest corner of Sadsbury Township, and the northern part of West Fallowfield, and flowing northwestwardly forms the boundary line between North Shenango and Pine Townships. Near the southwest corner of Pine, it turns southward, and passing through the western part of North Shenango to the southern limits of that township, it becomes the dividing line between South and West Shenango, and flowing southeast leaves the county at Jamestown, and unites with the Ohio River at Beaver.

Crooked Creek is a tributary of Shenango, and rising in Pymatuning Swamp along the northern sections of East and West Fallowfield, forms the boundary line between those townships. It flows due south and strikes Shenango Creek, a few miles below the Crawford County line. The foregoing embraces all the streams of any note in Crawford County. Some of these have local tributaries that water the different sections of the townships in which they are located; but little is known of them outside of their own immediate localities.

Some eight miles southwest of Meadville lies Lake Conneaut, a beautiful sheet of water, some three miles in length, and varying from half a mile to a mile in width, covering an area of about 1,200 acres. In depth it ranges from a few feet to nearly one hundred feet, though the average will fall far below the latter figure. The Senecas called the lake "Kon-ne-yaut," or the "Snow-place," from the fact that the snow remained on the ice of the lake for some time after it had disappeared from the surrounding lands. It is the largest inland lakes in Pennsylvania; is 497 feet above Lake Erie level; abounds in fish, and is also much frequented by sportsmen for the wild game that light upon its waters. It is nearly oval in shape, and lies almost wholly within Sadbury Township, a small point jutting into Summit. Conneaut Lake was used as a reservoir for the Beaver and Erie Canal, from the date of its construction until its abandonment. The surface of the lake was raised about ten feet by building a dam across the outlet, but when the canal was abandoned the dam was torn away, and the water receded to its original level. The lake is also quite a pleasure resort during the summer season, the great regatta of July 15, 1884, giving it a wide reputation. Four little steamers ply its waters, which flow from springs, and row and sail-boats, filled with pleasure seekers, skim along its surface, passing to and fro between Evansburg, Conneaut Lake Park, Oakland Beach, Fair Point, and Lynce's Landing, at all of which will be found ample accommodation for picnickers and pleasure parties. There is a large hotel at Fair Point, owned and operated by Mr. Johnson; and the railroad company has recently erected a Hotel at Conneaut Lake Park, which is conducted by Andrews Bros., of the Commercial Hotel, Meadville. Evansburg is amply supplied with hotels, and nothing is wanting to assist in whiling away a few happy hours.

Oil Creek Lake, near the center of Bloomfield Township, is two miles long and three-fourths of a mile wide, covers an area of several hundred acres, and has an average depth of about thirty feet. It was originally called Washington

Lake, which name, however, was dropped, and the present one came into general use. Fish of many kinds abound in its clear depths, and one small steamer plys upon its bosom, while a new hotel on the lakeside supplies the visitors with comfortable accommodations. Oil Creek Lake has an altitude of 816 feet above Lake Erie, being the highest of the Crawford County lakes.

Sugar Lake is located in the northeast part of Wayne Township, on one of the branches of Big Sugar Creek, and is surrounded by low hills. It is a mile long by half a mile wide, and when the white settlers first came to this county had a depth of more than thirty feet, while to-day it does not measure more than sixteen to eighteen. It is fed by Sugar Lake Inlet, and is 704 feet above Lake Erie. Like the other lakes and streams of Crawford County, it abounded in fish of many species, which yet remain, though in much lesser numbers than of yore. It was also a favorite hunting place for both Indians and white men for some years after the first settlement was made in that vicinity. Game of all sorts was plenty, and these beautiful little lakes seem to have been more frequented by the wild denizens of the forest than other portions of the county, so that they became noted resorts for the backwoods sportsman, who from his canoe would often kill several deer in one evening. But those days have gradually passed away, and in their stead have come progress and civilization.

CHAPTER VII.

TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES OF CRAWFORD COUNTY—ELEVATIONS, SURFACE DIP, AND PHYSICAL PHENOMENA OF STREAMS, LAKES AND SWAMPS—DRAINAGE OF CONNEAUT MARSH—PYMATUNING SWAMP—GEOLOGICAL SERIES—DRIFT—BURIED VALLEYS—POTTSVILLE CONGLOMERATE—HOMEWOOD SANDSTONE, MERCER GROUP, CONOQUENESSING AND SHARON—SUBCONGLOMERATE FORMATIONS—SHENANGO, MEADVILLE AND OIL LAKE GROUPS—VENANGO OIL SAND GROUP—VENANGO UPPER SANDSTONE, UPPER SHALES, MIDDLE SANDSTONE, LOWER SHALES AND LOWER SANDSTONE.

THE general level of the upland in Crawford County is given by the State Road which enters it near the northeast corner and runs in nearly a straight line for fifty-two miles parallel to the shore of Lake Erie, and about thirty miles south of it. The following list of elevations along this road, above the ocean and Lake Erie levels, were taken by Prof. John F. Carll some four years ago:

	Ocean. Feet.	Lake Erie. Feet.
Warren County line	1,653	1,080
Divide	1,690	1,117
Divide	1,797	1,224
Oil Creek Railroad	1,430	857
Divide	1,605	1,032
Britain Run	1,360	787
Divide	1,621	1,048
Riceville	1,315	742
Union & Titusville Railroad	1,369	796
Divide	1,611	1,038
Cross Roads	1,602	1,029
Divide	1,617	1,044
Little Cooley	1,210	637
Divide	1,428	855
New Richmond	1,312	739

Divide	1,581	1,008
Woodcock Creek	1,247	674
Divide	1,435	862
Divide	1,361	788
Branch of Woodcock Creek	1,397	824
Divide	1,550	977
Meadville	1,080	507
Miller's Quarry	1,303	730
Evansburg Depot	1,284	711
Mushrush Coal Bank	1,324	751
McEntire Coal Hill	1,338	765
Unger Hill	1,348	775
Run	1,240	667
McLanahan Quarry	1,315	742
Run	1,277	704
Hazen's Hill	1,443	870
Turnersville	1,060	487
Crooked Creek near Adamsville	996	423
Snodgrass Ore Bank between Adamsville and Jamestown	1,360	787
Jamestown	987	414

It is plainly evident from this table that the highest land along the State Road is at the eastern end of Crawford County, and that the general level falls off westward. This expresses the topography of the region: a steady decline in the height of the uplands from the State of New York through Pennsylvania into Ohio. The same law is exhibited by the drainage, the flow of French Creek being down the dip of the measures from north southward, and down the general slope of the surface from northeast southwestward. At Meadville the stream turns and cuts down through the upper measures (with the dip) southeastward. The level of the valley bed in which French Creek flows is shown in the following table of elevations of the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad, and its Franklin Branch:

	Ocean. Feet.	Lake Erie. Feet.
Miller's Station	1,169	596
Cambridge Station	1,163	590
Venango Station	1,163	590
Saegertown Station	1,116	543
Meadville Station	1,080	507
Franklin Branch Junction	1,074	501
Shaw's Landing Station	1,092	519
Cochranton Station	1,064	491
Carlton (Evans Bridge)	1,047	474

From the junction westward the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad crosses the divide to the Shenango, its levels in this county being as follows:

	Ocean. Feet.	Lake Erie. Feet.
Meadville Junction	1,074	501
Geneva (Sutton's)	1,069	496
Evansburg	1,284	711
Atlantic	1,148	575

The descent of the waters of Oil Creek from the high divide of Crawford County south of French Creek, with the dip, is illustrated by the following tables of levels, on the Union & Titusville, and the Oil Creek & Allegheny Valley Railroads:

	Ocean. Feet.	Lake Erie. Feet.
Near Summit	1,458	885
Lakeville	1,412	839
Lincolnville	1,382	809
Riceville	1,369	796
Noble's	1,298	725
Tryonville Junction	1,320	747
Titusville	1,194	621

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	Ocean. Feet.	Lake Erie. Feet.
Summit	1,646½	1,073½
Spartansburg	1,453½	880½
Tryonville Junction	1,320	747
Titusville	1,194	621

Although Oil Creek waters now flow southward into the Allegheny River at Oil City, Prof. Carll believes that there was a time, previous to the great change in the surface of the region made by the northern ice, when it turned at Tryonville westward and used what is now the valley of Muddy Creek, joining French Creek near Miller's Station. This is the route of the proposed Pennsylvania & Petroleum Railroad, now abandoned, the roadbed of which shows the following levels :

	Ocean. Feet.	Lake Erie. Feet.
Titusville	1,181	608
Newton's Mills	1,258	685
Athen's Mills	1,268	693
Little Cooley	1,203	630
Teepletown	1,204	631
Cambridge, on French Creek	1,158	585

According to Prof. Carll, French Creek in pre-glacial times—before its lower water course was filled with drift, and its waters, first spreading out into a great upland lake over northern Crawford and southern Erie Counties, cut for themselves a new channel southward through the barrier above Franklin—turned sharply westward below Meadville up Conneaut Lake Creek into Lake Erie. Prof. I. C. White in his report on Crawford and Erie counties, does not accept Prof. Carll's conclusions; but holds the opinion that French Creek has always drained southward into the Ohio River. No railway line follows this route the entire distance, but some of its features are illustrated by the levels of the Erie & Pittsburgh road. By this route the Grand Divide is crossed at an elevation of 568 feet above Lake Erie, at a point about twenty-five miles south of the lake shore, while the different levels along the line within Crawford county are as follows :

	Ocean. Feet.	Lake Erie. Feet.
Spring	961	388
Conneautville	1,066	493
Summit Station, on the Grand Divide	1,141	568
Linesville	1,033	460
Espyville	1,088	515
Kasson's	1,111	538
Jamestown	979	406

From the brow of the Lake Erie sand-bluff terrace, there is an upward slope to a line which may be drawn on the map from the northeast corner of Greenfield Township, Erie County, on the New York State line, eleven miles south of the lake shore, to the northwest corner of Conneaut Township, Crawford County, on the Ohio State line, twenty-three miles south of the lake shore. Down this slope flow many small streams which empty into Lake Erie, the long streams descending from the divide to the lake being all west of Erie, while the short, rapid creeks flowing into the lake are located east of that city.

The waters of French Creek flowing south from the divide present a wholly different topographical phenomenon ; its several branches in Erie County, together with Little and Big Conneaut, Cussewago, Lake Conneaut, Conneaut Outlet and their many feeders and branches in Crawford drain the whole rain fall of the Great Divide southward, through flat valleys, one and even two miles wide, bordered by low and gently rounded hill slopes, and separated by

low, flat table-lands. The fall of French Creek is gentle, as will be seen by the following table of elevations :

	Ocean. Feet.	Lake Erie. Feet.
Great Divide	1,500	927
Greenfield	1,400	827
Wattsburg	1,315	742
Mouth of Doolittle's Run	1,310	737
Waterford Line	1,235	662
Mouth of South Branch	1,200	627
Carrol's Quarries	1,190	617
Mill Village Bridge	1,165	592
Opposite Miller's Station	1,135	562
Cambridge (water)	1,130	557
Venango (water)	1,115	542
Saegertown (water)	1,100	527
Meadville (water)	1,065	492
Cochranton (water)	1,050	477
Crawford, Venango Line (water)	1,045	472
Utica (water)	1,020	447
Franklin (water)	970	397

Cussewago Creek is a sluggish stream meandering along a wide, shallow, drift-filled valley, the side hills of which, however, often rise abruptly from the plain ; showing thus, incidentally, how deep the drift must be in this pre-glacial valley bed.

Crooked Creek and the Shenango drain Pymatuning Swamp in two opposite directions, but all the waters finding their way southward, emphasize the same style of topography in the southwest corner of Crawford County. The Shenango drains out the north end of the swamp, but the amount of water leaving the county by this channel is small. Crooked Creek drains the south end of the swamp, and is a sluggish, meandering stream, its valley being wide and flat, and filled to a great depth with drift.

Lakes and swamps are, of course, numerous in such a country, so flat, and so entirely covered with the great boulder clay and gravel deposit of the northern ice drift. Oil Creek Lake and Conneaut Lake lie on a parallel line drawn diagonally across Crawford County, with Lakes Pleasant, Le Boeuf and Conneauttee in Erie; while Sugar Lake lies near the Venango County line in Wayne Township. Conneaut Lake is located on the low divide between the French Creek, Conneaut and Shenango waters. A natural embankment or moraine of drift, fifteen to twenty feet high, lies across the valley at Glendale, and forms a natural dam to the marsh, which extends up to the foot of the lake. Marshes extend three miles north of the head of Lake Conneaut. The ancient lake behind the moraine was, therefore, at least fourteen miles long, of about the size of Lake Chautauqua, in New York State. Under the present peat bogs of the swamps lie old deposits of fresh-water shell-marl. When the lake was the reservoir for the Beaver & Erie Canal, its surface level was 1,082 feet above the ocean, and 509 feet above Lake Erie; but since the tearing away of the dam across its mouth, and the deepening of Conneaut Outlet, its level has been lowered twelve feet, leaving it now 1,070 and 497 feet respectively above the ocean and lake. The outlet drains the lake southeastward sluggishly through a marsh to French Creek.

Conneaut Marsh represents the former extension southward of Lake Conneaut when it was much larger than at present, as is shown also by swamps at the northern end of the lake. It stretches along Conneaut Outlet to within two miles and a half of its junction with French Creek, and was estimated by the State Surveyor-General at 5,000 acres. The natural vegetation of the marsh consists of swamp willow, tamarack, black alder, witch hazel, poison su-

mach, and the side saddle flower; while in the standing water-pools nothing grows but the broad leaf flag. On the 14th of April, 1868, the Legislature passed an act providing for the drainage of the marsh. W. W. Andrews of Vernon Township, William Porter, of Fairfield, and Dr. A. B. Cushman, of Greenwood, were authorized to hold an election the first Monday in May, for the purpose of electing three commissioners to serve one, two and three years respectively, one to be elected annually thereafter to fill the place of the retiring member. These commissioners were elected by the male owners of the marsh lands, and were empowered to assess said lands up to 50 cents per acre for drainage purposes. A surveyor was appointed to survey the lands within the limits of the marsh, which were exempted from taxation until the work was completed. A steam dredging machine was purchased and the work commenced at the outlet of Conneaut Lake. The channel of the outlet was made eight feet deep and sixteen feet wide most of the way from the lake to within two miles and a half of French Creek, at an average cost of $1,000 per mile. The work was prosecuted vigorously until its completion a couple of years ago. Side ditches were cut emptying into the main channel, and the improvement so drained the marsh that in a short time cattle could graze along the banks of the outlet. The larger part of these lands, which a few years ago were unfit for cultivation, are to-day regarded as among the most valuable in the county. The soil is rich and almost inexhaustible, and immense crops of corn have been raised where water once stood the year round.

Pymatuning Swamp represents a large lake which formerly existed in the southwest corner of Crawford County. It extends from the head of Crooked Creek, near Hartstown, along the Shenango, fifteen miles, to the Ohio State line, and when surveyed by Col. Worrall in 1868, had an area of 9,000 acres, which has since been considerably reduced by judicious ditching. It lies 1,025 feet above tide, or 452 feet above Lake Erie. In the swamp is a somewhat extensive deposit of shell-marl, similar to that found around Conneaut Lake. Alfred Huidekoper, Esq., in his "Incidents in the Early History of Crawford County," written in 1846, thus refers to Pymatuning Swamp: "It has every appearance of having once been a lake whose bed had been gradually filled up with accumulated vegetable matter. Covered with the cranberry vine, with occasional clumps of alders, and islands of larch and other timber, the subsoil is so loose that a pole can be thrust into it from ten to twenty feet. Ditches that have been cut through it for the purpose of draining, exhibit fallen timber below ground, and the dead stumps of trees still standing in place, show, by the divergence of their roots, that the serface of the soil is now from two to three feet higher than it was when the trees were growing."

Another large swamp stretches along the southern and eastern portions of Randolph Township; and others exist in Troy, Athens and Bloomfield Townships, thus making a considerable area of swamp or marsh lands in Crawford County.

Conneaut Creek heads on the drift-filled low divide of Summit Township, which is the northern extension of the Conneaut Lake basin. The stream flows north between low banks of quicksand and gravel, upon a drift-filling sometimes 180 feet deep. It only remains to note the topography of the county east of French Creek.

Muddy Creek flows in an ancient valley of erosion, now filled deep with drift. The stream meanders sluggishly northwestward, between banks of quicksand and gravel, and discharges its waters into French Creek.

The west branch of Sugar Creek, according to Prof. Carll, probably flowed northwestward in pre-glacial times, through the flat divide along the present

channel of Woodcock Run. When this channel was filled by the ice with drift, a lake was formed and a new outlet was cut southward in the direction of Franklin and the Allegheny River. The greatest quantity of drift was dumped into the valley about Guy's Mills, where the surface is now forty feet higher than the streams. The water plain of the valley is a mile wide; and the bordering hill-slopes rise abruptly from it to a height of 200 feet. Six miles lower down, the stream spreads out into the handsome piece of water known as Sugar Lake, which was formerly much deeper than at present, as the clearing of the upland slopes is rapidly filling it with sand and mud. The east branch of Sugar Creek heads in like manner in the drift-filled valley plain around Townville, and possibly once poured its waters northward down the channel of Muddy Creek. The head waters of Little Sugar are located in drift-plain valleys on a level with the heads of Mill and Woodcock Runs, which flow respectively toward Meadville and Saegertown.

Oil Creek drains all of eastern Crawford, southward into the Allegheny River. Prof. Carll holds the opinion that in pre-glacial times, before the rock-gate at Titusville was opened, all the Pine Creek waters of Warren and Venango Counties flowed past Titusville northwestwardly along the present channel of Oil Creek, and being joined at Hydetown by Little Oil Creek and Thompson's Run, and near Tryonville by the East and West Branches of Oil Creek, poured along the channel of Muddy into French Creek; the present water-shed west of Tryonville being merely a slight elevation in the drift-plain of the ancient valley. The northern feeders of Oil Creek descend southward from the Concord-Sparta-Bloomfield highlands with its maximum hill-tops of 1,850 feet above tide water, or 1,277 feet above Lake Erie. Near the head of the West Branch lies Oil Creek Lake, fed by two runs from the highlands, and numerous springs which rise from its bottom and sides. The valley of Oil Creek is wide and flat, and the hills rise abruptly and often with cliffs from its flood-plain, showing that its ancient bed lies far beneath the present surface. The following levels of Oil Creek will show its present rate of descent:

	Ocean. Feet.	Lake Erie. Feet.
Oil Creek Lake	1,389	816
Riceville (water)	1,325	752
Centerville (water)	1,275	702
Tryonville (water)	1,260	687
Road northeast corner Troy Township	1,250	675
Hydetown (water)	1,230	657
Titusville (water)	1,160	587
Oil City (water)	985	412

Geological Series.—The soils of Crawford, while they often yield bountiful crops, are eminently adapted to grazing, and can be most successfully employed for such purposes. There are two principal classes of soils; one, derived from the decomposition of drift material; the other, originating in the decay of vegetable matter in the vicinity of bogs and land reclaimed from swamps. From the drift there generally results a strong, clayey or sometimes gravelly soil, rich in fertilizing elements; but owing to the impervious bed of clay, which so often accompanies the drift, this soil is generally inclined to be cold and wet, so that the land has to be thoroughly under-drained before first-class crops can be raised. The swamp lands, when properly drained and cleared up, possess almost inexhaustible resources. The deep covering of decayed vegetable mold found in such large quantities in every bog within the county, would make an excellent top-dressing for the colder clay soils derived from drift; and the attention of farmers cannot be too strongly

called to this valuable source of manure for their lands, procurable in vast quantities and at a slight cost.

Drift.—There is no land within the county that has not been affected by the great ice sheet, which in glacial times moved southwestward over this entire region. At Meadville, Prof. White found glacial scratches upon the upper surface of the Sharon Conglomerate which forms the top of College Hill, 1,550 feet above tide, 1,177 feet above Lake Erie, and 500 feet above the present bed of French Creek, which is, he thinks, at least 300 feet above its old water-course beneath the drift. On the supposition that the old buried channel of the stream at Meadville was already that deep previous to the glacial invasion, the ice-sheet must have been at least 800 feet thick here. The direction of the ice-grooves examined by Prof. White on thirty or forty summits in Erie and Crawford Counties was uniformly about S. 30° E., or south-southeast. The greatest thickness of the ice-sheet, thus moving from the north-northwest, must have been over the low-lying western townships, and its thin melting edge over the eastern townships, around and between hills formed or capped by harder rocks than those of the lower lands.

The varied character of the northern drift deposits can be well studied along the shore of Lake Erie, towards the Ohio State line, where they constitute a terrace bluff, from fifty to eighty feet high. Stratified rocks are scarcely anywhere exposed along the shore west of Erie, except at the mouths and in the beds of inflowing streams. The matrix is a bluish-white tough clay imbedding fragments, mostly angular, of all kinds of crystaline rocks, with sandstone, shale, black slate and limestone; and occasionally a large bowlder of granite or gneiss is seen protruding from the mass.

Quicksand is abundant in the drift deposits of the region back from Lake Erie, and especially along the summit level of the old Beaver & Erie Canal. A bed of it two feet thick was found in cutting the channel for the canal; and for a mile and a half the sides and bottom of the canal had to be timbered and boarded. Along the depression of Conneaut Lake the drift is probably very deep, and the valley of Conneaut Creek is heaped with drift from the summit down to the great bend in Erie County. Mr. Schofield, of Conneautville, gave Prof. White the following record of a drill-hole which he put down near that borough:

	Feet.
Gravel, bowlders, clay, etc.	112
Shale and sand layers	30
Quicksand	45

After drilling through thirty feet of what he then supposed to be bed rock, the tools dropped, and, says Mr. Schofield, "quicksand boiled up like mush." The drive pipe had to be extended to 187 feet ere striking bed-rock.

The drift in French Creek valley is very deep. About four miles below Meadville, a drive pipe was put down 285 feet without touching bottom rock; all the way through quicksand and bowlders. The drift on Oil Creek is shown by well borings to be from 100 to 200 feet deep. On Muddy Creek the water wells are dug in quicksand, and heaps of drift are to be seen everywhere on the surface. But on the high lands there seems to be but a thin coating of drift, and often nothing but scattered bowlders, with scratches and furrows on the rock surfaces. Glacial scratches are abundant on the surfaces of the harder sandstone outcrops, especially in Mead, Fairfield, Greenwood, East Fallowfield, Randolph, Wayne, East Fairfield, Union and South Shenango Townships. The scratched rocks nearly always belong to the Sharon conglomerate. Erratics, are abundant, and some may be found ten feet in diameter; but they are not anything like so numerous in Crawford, as in the counties further south. The

erratics were not brought by icebergs, but by glacial ice, and they naturally increase in number southward in the direction of the motion of the Great Beaver Valley glacier, on the principle of a terminal moraine.

Buried Valleys.—The present water-courses of the county meander along the upper surfaces of drift deposits which fill up the ancient valleys to various heights above the old rock beds, even in some places where no living stream now flows. The 285-foot drive-pipe of the Smith well, sunk in the valley of French Creek, about four miles below Meadville, serves to indicate the depth of the old valley floor. The hole was commenced on the plain, twenty feet above French Creek, or 482 feet above Lake Erie. The bottom of the pipe was therefore 197 feet above Lake Erie. Bed-rocks are frequently seen along French Creek, but the flood plain being two miles wide, there is ample space for a buried valley between the two wall slopes, though none has been reported, as oil borings are not numerous. The buried valley of Conneaut Lake and marsh is fully spoken of in the typography of the county. Its side-hills are 300 feet above the present plain ; but the depth of the old rock floor is unknown. No rocks in place are seen along the Cussewago from Meadville up to near its head. The stream winds along between low banks of sand and glacial debris, which probably fill an ancient and now deeply-buried valley-bed. Similar appearances, and the putting down of drive-pipes indicate buried valleys along Muddy, Woodcock, Sugar and Little Sugar, Oil, Crooked, Shenango and Conneaut Creeks. Bed-rock was struck on Mr. Allen's farm above Sugar Lake at eighty feet. Near the south line of Troy Township, on Sugar Creek, John Armstrong's drive-pipe measured 130 feet. On Oil Creek, just above Hydetown on the Reed estate, drift 190 feet deep was found. Below Tryonville, on the Preston farm bed, rock was reached at 200 feet; and just west of this Mr. Gray's pipe touched rock at 160 feet. A drive-pipe reached rock at 160 feet on each side of the stream below the Tryonville bridge ; while a mile above Centerville, bed-rock was found at ninety and 100 feet. We have previously mentioned the depth of the drift on Conneaut Creek, found by Mr. Schofield to be 187 feet near Conneautville.

The most remarkable of these buried valleys are those through which two streams now flow in opposite directions from a common divide, scarcely more elevated than other parts of the flood plain. Two fine examples of this phenomenon exist in Mead Township: Mill and Mud Runs, both of which have their heads together in a swamp located in a common wide and deep land valley, Mill Run flowing north and Mud Run south. The two valley walls slope gradually upward to a height of 350 feet. Prof. White holds the opinion that there must be an older and deeper valley bed buried beneath this swamp and these two streams; and that along this ancient rock-bed a single stream must have flowed in one or the other direction. Another example is Little Sugar Creek, (east branch) which flows southward past Mead's Corners, in a similar drift-filled, ancient valley, out from an imperceptible divide in Mead Township, from which another stream flows north into Woodcock Run. The hill walls are here 200 feet high. Woodcock Run and the West Branch of Sugar Creek head together at Guy's Mills on the flat floor of a through-cut valley bounded by hills 200 feet high, and flow in opposite directions. The south fork of Muddy Creek and the north branch of Sugar Creek head together at Townville, in a through-cut valley, the walls of which rise very high. The streams are separated by a ridge of drift forty feet high which crosses the valley floor at this point.

Prof. White's theory regarding these ancient buried valleys, is that they were excavated by ancient rivers flowing from one to four hundred feet beneath

the present valley drift floors; or they were cut by the great southward Canadian ice sheet, which as it retreated filled them up again with the debris which it carried; or they were first excavated by pre-glacial rivers, then deepened and widened more or less, and grooved and scratched and polished by the ice, and filled with its moraine matter to the present levels. His conviction is, however, that these buried water-ways must have owed their origin to the flowing power of ice.

Pottsville Conglomerate.—This great formation is represented along the southern border of Crawford County, by four more or less massive and sometimes pebbly sandstone deposits separated by softer shaly layers, and known under the general title of Homewood Sandstone, 50 feet; Mercer Group, 30 feet; Conoquenessing, 120 feet; and Sharon, 98 feet. The few fragments of Homewood Sandstone which remain in this county, are concealed beneath a covering of northern drift. Where Fairfield-Greenwood Township line strikes Mercer County, a coal-boring on a small hill-top went through 50 feet of sandstone, probably the Homewood, which is always found in the highest summits. In Wayne Township, south of Sugar Lake, near the county line a drift-covered hill-top, rising 325 feet above the Shenango sandstone, ought to hold Homewood.

The Mercer Group appears along the southern edge of the county as sandy shales, everywhere concealed by the drift; but a drift-hole, near the southwest corner of Fairfield Township, reported a few inches of coaly substance in 30 feet of shales.

The Conoquenessing has three formations: upper sandstone, Quakertown beds, and lower sandstone. The upper sandstone caps a number of the highest knobs. On Culver and Dyce's knob, in the center of Greenwood Township, 1,400 feet above tide,* large masses of grayish-white pebbly sandstone lie 130 feet above the Sharon coal, opened in the flats below. John Shepard's knob, in east Fallowfield, 1,420 feet above tide, is capped with massive white sandstone, 125 feet above the Sharon coal. Several hills in Fairfield, toward French Creek and Conneaut Lake, are capped by it. Voison's quarry, on the south side of a high ridge in Randolph Township, shows thirty feet of very hard, white, tolerably coarse-grained sandstone. The top of the rock is about 1,550 feet above tide. The upper surface of the white, coarse sandstone in McCartney's ledge, near Randolph Postoffice, is scored with glacial furrows. The top of the rock is 1,650 feet above tide, and the southern dip to Voison's quarry, five miles south, is twenty feet per mile. Power's knob, two miles east and a little north of McCartney's ledge, at the southern edge of Richmond, is capped with white sandstone. Thirty feet of the rock are visible, the top of which is 1,650 feet above tide.

In Troy and Steuben Townships, where the hills often rise above the horizon of this stratum, there are often found great numbers of small bowlders of a sandstone, which is pitted with small cavities in such a manner as to give it a rude resemblance to a honey-comb, or more accurately, to a hornet's nest. The small cavities seem to be filled with a ferruginous clayey material, which readily crumbles and falls out when it is exposed by fracture, and thus leaves the sandstone punctured with numerous small holes one-fourth to three-eights of an inch in diameter.

The Quakertown coal exists in the Voison knob in Randolph Township; since lumps of outcrop coal are found in the large spring under the quarried sandstone. Elsewhere its outcrop is always concealed by sandstone fragments fallen from above.

* Lake Erie is 573 feet lower than tide level.

The lower sandstone is seen at several localities along the southern portion of the county, and is nearly always a very hard, coarse, sometimes pebbly, often micaceous, grayish brown sandstone, with occasionally a tinge of buff. On Miller's land, on the south line of east Fallowfield, it overlies the Sharon coal fifteen feet, and is forty feet thick, disintegrating on exposure to the weather. At McEntire's, further north in the same township, only ten feet of it remain, broken into large and small fragments, perhaps by the passage of the northern ice. At the top of Pine knoll, west part of Wayne, it overlies a worked coal bed, and is crushed to fragments. On Wentworth's and other farms south of Sugar Lake it is plainly visible. This sandstone is sometimes itself divided into two layers, separated by twenty or thirty feet of shale, its lower sandy mass then forming the roof of the Sharon coal bed.

Sharon has four formations: Upper iron shales, coal, lower shales, and conglomerate. Owing to the very limited extent of the Sharon coal in this district, the usual iron-bearing shales, so often seen above it, in the Shenango and Mahoning Valleys, are but seldom exposed, and have yielded iron ore only in two instances. At James M. Snodgrass', near Jamestown, in South Shenango Township, a bed of solid iron ore two feet thick, covered by four feet of blue shale, was stripped from the hill top, and sent to Greenville and Middlesex Furnaces. The ore lying in dish-shaped depressions frequently ran out. A thin coal bed underlies the ore, and may represent a rider of the Sharon coal, as often happens in Mercer County. It lies 140 feet above the base of the Shenango sandstone in the hollow to the west. At McDaniels', on Sugar Creek, and the Venango County line, a rich carbonate iron ore-bed, one foot thick, has been stripped and drifted into for Liberty Furnace. The shales above it hold much kidney ore which was also mined. The Sharon coal lies twenty feet under it. This iron ore horizon might, doubtless, be found workable at other places along the southern edge of the county.

The Sharon coal bed is thin and poor, and appears only at intervals around the edges of the high isolated acres of conglomerate, in Crawford County. Except in a few knobs which catch it in their summits further north, it is confined to the southern tier of townships; and as a workable bed it is almost confined to East Fallowfield, through the hills of which it spreads pretty generally and regularly. At O. K. Miller's Mine, near the county line, where several hundred tons were taken out before bad drainage spoiled the workings, the bed varies from three feet to a few inches, and in some directions to nothing. It is somewhat slaty, but a genuine "block coal," and lies in twenty-five feet of shales. Fifteen feet over it is seen the base of forty feet of Conoquenessing lower sandstone, and ten feet under it the top of the massive Sharon conglomerate, here very pebbly. The McEntire settlement, two miles north of Miller's Mine, furnished coal at an early day, which was hauled to Meadville. James M. McEntire described his coal bed to Prof. White as six feet of impure cannel, overlying four feet of block coal, making a total thickness of ten feet. The upper bench was really a bituminous shale, although it could be burned; and both layers were very variable, often running down to nothing. The coal on Jesse McEntire's land was chiefly stripped; but these McEntire Mines were long ago exhausted.

In Greenwood Township several borings have reported the Sharon coal. In Union Township Huber & Klippel stripped a few tons from the steep slope of Dutch Hill, a high knob half a mile from French Creek. On the opposite slopes of French Creek Valley, near the north line of East Fairfield, a Byhm's shaft was sunk in 1878. Under fifty-five feet of drift it reached the coal bed, where the glacial movement had crushed it into an unminable condition. In

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Mead three or four water-wells report the coal bed always under drift, and in a broken-up state. In Wright's well, two miles and a half due east of Meadville, the coal bed was struck after passing through twenty-five feet of drift. On the summit of Pine Knoll, in Wayne Township, where coal has been worked on a small scale for a long time, the bed is only one foot thick. In the Wentworth oil-boring, southeast edge of Wayne, the Sharon coal bed was reported at a depth of fifty-five feet, as follows : Coal, upper bench, one foot ; cannel slate parting, five feet ; coal, lower bench, two feet. Both top and bottom benches looked like "block coal," free from sulphur, and the slaty parting could be burned. In Troy and Steuben Townships numerous highlands have sufficient elevation to catch the Sharon coal, but it has not been found, and very little effort has been made to see if it existed.

The Sharon lower shales are covered by fire-clay, which underlies the Sharon coal bed; and these shales sometimes graduate downward into the Sharon conglomerate series. The interval between the bottom of the coal and the top of the solid sandstone varies from five to fifteen feet.

The Sharon conglomerate is a widespread deposit of sand and pebbles of quartz, and has been surveyed throughout the whole extent of the western and northern counties of Pennsylvania. In Crawford County it is exhibited in a remarkably satisfactory and complete manner, by the Meadville quarries on College Hill. Here building-stone layers, with an occasional pebble, occupy the upper thirty-five feet ; and the lower ten feet is a conglomerated mass of quartz pebbles. The upper beds are of a rather hard, coarse, dull gray sandstone (often reddish when first quarried), containing an occasional pebble of quartz ; but building-stone free from pebbles can usually be got by not quarrying down too low. The building material obtained from it is quite durable when nothing but the homogeneous sandstone is used; but toward the lower portion, where the pebbles increase in number and begin to be scattered through the matrix, the sand grains become quite coarse and seem to have little power of coherence, since they rapidly break loose from each other on exposure, and the sandstone soon decays. Great care should be taken in putting up a stone structure from this rock, that no pebbles enter into the composition of any material exposed to the action of the weather. In some of the quarries at Meadville, thirty feet of this upper division is taken out. The lower division, as seen along the by-road passing up to the quarries, is a perfect mass of quartz pebbles, varying in size from a pea to a hen's egg, and always egg-shaped, never flattened or worn into thin forms, such as we often see in the conglomerates which come in the series below this horizon. The matrix of these pebbles is a coarse, greenish-grey sand, which disintegrates very readily and lets the imbedded pebbles drop out in a loose heap around the outcrop

A peculiar lithology, different from that of any other rock in the conglomerate series, distinguishes the Sharon conglomerate, so that a person who has once learned to know it can rarely fail to recognize it even in scattered fragments. The size of the pebbles seems to increase going east; for while the largest seen in Crawford County by Prof. White was not larger than a hen's egg, they are found along the Allegheny River as large as a goose's egg. The areas, surrounded by local outcrops of Sharon conglomerate in this county, are largest and longest west of the meridian of Little Cooley and Townville. Between that meridian and the Warren County line, in the upper Oil Creek country, only small isolated patches of the rock have been left. These variations of erosion are mostly due to variations in the lithological constitution of the formation; for, instead of being as thick and massive everywhere as it is at Meadville, it changes in many places to a series of thin bedded, fine grained

sandstones, hardly less capable of resisting erosion than the formations underneath it. It is not unfrequently current-bedded; as for example at Henry's quarry in East Fallowfield Township. And here also the top layer is honeycombed, apparently from the decomposition of the erect stems of a seaweed (fucoid); and it also contains fragments of the scales and bones of fish. The general northern outcrop of the Sharon conglomerate as a formation, or the line along the northern ends of all its separate areas, crosses Crawford County from its southwest to its northeast corner, and the elevations above tide along this line increase in that direction.

Subconglomerate Formations.—This term is applied by Prof. White, to a series of deposits underlying the Sharon conglomerate in this region, and resting on the Venango Oil Land group. They make most of the uplands of Crawford County, while the valleys between are occupied by the Venango Oil Land group. The series may be divided into three groups thus: Shenango group, 75 feet; Meadville group, 205 feet; Oil Lake group, 162 feet. A reference to the stratification in the vicinity of Meadville, will tend to convey a tolerably exact conception of the nature of the beds of rock which occupy the 400 feet of depth below the base of the conglomerate stratum which there caps the hills forming part of the general margin of the coal field. These hills on the north and south of Meadville are at their greatest elevation 488 feet above the bottom of the old French Creek canal feeder, and expose the upper strata especially with some degree of distinctness. The lower strata are not so continuously exposed to view, making it more difficult to determine their true order of succession. Near the level of the canal, the beds are of brown slate and sandstone, and over this, we find a thin bed of clayey shale, then a sandstone repeated, and then another layer of red and gray shale two or three feet thick. At a higher level are seen thin beds of calcareous shale, some of which abound in fossil shells and other organic remains. From this shale to a height of 150 feet occur alternations of coarse brown sandstone and thinly laminated bluish slates and flaggy olive sandstones and olive slates. At that height we meet a bed of blue shale four feet thick, and over it a brown sandstone and olive slate, until we reach 235 feet above the bottom of the canal, where we encounter a bed of sandy limestone. Under the limestone, in a massive bluish sandstone, we find thin layers of an impure iron ore. Ascending from the limestone, we pass thick beds of brown bluish sandstone (some of the latter being slightly calcareous), thin beds of fossiliferous and calcareous slate, succeeded by others of brown and blue shale. At the height of 412 feet we arrive at the base of the great bed of Sharon conglomerate, which is also seen at the height of 450 feet.

The Shenango Group embraces the Shenango shales and Shenango sandstone formations. The Shenango shale, under the Sharon conglomerate in Crawford County, generally consists entirely of blue, gray and brown clay shales, but frequently contains thin flaggy sandstone layers, which in one locality examined by Prof. White merged into a solid sandstone ten feet thick. A streak of iron ore is nearly always found at the base of the shales in Crawford County, an irregular layer of clay ironstone balls. Fossils rarely appear in the Shenango shale, but when found, are of sub-carboniferous types. Plant remains are found in the upper part of the Shenango shale at the Snodgrass quarry, near Jamestown. The average thickness of this shale through Crawford County may be called fifty feet, being nowhere less than thirty-six, nor more than sixty.

The Shenango sandstone in this county is tolerably coarse grained, yellowish brown or sometimes a dull gray in color, crowded with balls of iron ore

from six inches to one foot in diameter, or even larger. Fish-bones, teeth, scales and spines are everywhere found in it, while small rounded pebbles of shale or fine sandstone are also common. The remains of plants and shells may be found in most of its exposed outcrops. As a building stone it is very valuable, far superior to the Sharon conglomerate above it, in resistance to weather, being composed of nearly a pure quartz sand, the grains cemented by peroxide of iron. Its ore-balls, however, are so numerous, that it is almost impossible to dress up the blocks, which are therefore rejected for ornamental uses, and used almost only for bridge abutments, piers and other strong structures. It was used in the locks of the Beaver & Erie Canal, where it is to-day as sound as when quarried. Jackson's quarry, between Atlantic and Evansburg, has furnished most of the bridge stone, etc., along the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad.

The outcrop enters Crawford County on the east bank of Shenango Creek, runs to the center of South Shenango Township, then east through West Fallowfield and returns back of Adamsville, 250 feet above the level of Crooked Creek. It runs north and south through East Fallowfield, overlooking the railroad; circles at Stony Point through Sadsbury, back into East Fallowfield, and so follows the south hills of Conneaut Outlet through Greenwood and Fairfield, and down French Creek Valley into Venango County. It encircles the high lands in Vernon and Union, about 250 feet above the level of Conneaut Outlet. It runs along the Meadville Hills, at about 375 feet above the level of French Creek; and looks down from the south and west upon the great bend of Woodcock Run, along the north and west lines of Randolph. It stretches from around the hill-tops of New Richmond southward through Troy Township into Venango County, and occupies the high summit of northern Athens west of Riceville on Oil Creek, of western Sparta, and east of Oil Creek Lake, thence enters Warren County. The rise from the Snodgrass quarry near Jamestown, which is 1,190 feet above tide to the highest knob in the southeast corner of Erie County, forty-six miles distant, and 1,860 feet above tide, is 670 feet or fourteen and one-half feet per mile. The thickness of the Shenango sandstone in Crawford County varies from fifteen to thirty-five feet. Natural exposures of considerable beauty may be found in two localities. In Greenwood Township, half a mile south of Custard's Postoffice, fine cliffs enclose a deep and narrow gorge, with a waterfall thirty feet high. Here immense quantities of ore-balls may be seen, many of them larger than ostrich eggs; base of rock 1,270 feet above tide. Grassy Run, in Wayne Township, three-fourths of a mile above its mouth, cuts a chasm through the rocks, with cliffs thirty-five feet high; base of rock 1,315 above tide. Hundreds of other inferior outcrops might be enumerated. As this sandstone is followed eastward it becomes coarser and more massive, for while its bottom layers only begin to be pebbly at Meadville, at Warren the pebble-rock is from forty to forty-five feet thick, and at Franklin is extensively quarried 120 feet above the water in French Creek.

The Meadville Group consists of the Meadville upper shales, Meadville upper limestone, Meadville lower shales, Sharpsville upper sandstone, Meadville lower limestone, Sharpsville lower limestone and Orangeville shales. The Meadville upper shales are bluish-gray, or ashen gray in color, argillaceous at the top, sandy lower down, sometimes flaggy, but never massive. Where well exposed at the head of the Cemetery Branch of Mill Run, near Meadville, they are 15 feet thick; one mile east of this 30 feet; on Grassy Run, in Wayne Township, 36½ feet; at Custard's Postoffice, 30 feet; at Jamestown, 25 feet; near Dutch Hill, in Union Township, 40 feet, and in East Fallowfield,

where the road crosses Unger's Run, 15 feet. Fucoids, or sea-weeds, are numerous in these shales.

The Meadville upper limestone is exposed in many places across Crawford County. Its thickness seldom exceeds one foot, often not six inches, and never more than one foot six inches. Fish scales, teeth, bones, plates, and spines, are so crowded into it, that at many localities it might be called a fishbone conglomerate, in which it is difficult to detect any other materials. There are many novelties in the Meadville upper limestone, and materials for its study are abundant and easily accessible. Rounded pebbles of shale and fine sandstone are nearly always to be found in it; usually of a dark color, and derived from older strata of the series. In some places these pebbles are very numerous, and are usually flat, or lenticular, sometimes worn oval, and tapering to a blunt point. The Limestone matrix is not a pure carbonate of lime; but contains much silicia, etc., and often resembles a sandstone weathered. The rock has the peculiar sub-carboniferous-limestone fracture of this region, the broken surface being covered with many small elliptical, glassy, sparkling spots (which look like small shells until they are closely examined) due to a semi-crystillization of the carbonate of lime. The best places to study this rock and to collect its fossils are as follows: The gorge south of Custard's Postoffice; the ravines east of Meadville leading to Mill Run; the ravines two and a half miles east of Meadville, descending to Woodcock Creek; Grassy Run, in Wayne Township; the ravine at Jamestown; and at McElhenny's, two miles north of Jamestown. Good exposures can be found on the many small streams descending to Crooked Creek, near Adamsville; but fish remains can be found almost anywhere on the lines of outcrop.

The Meadville lower shales are, like the upper, generally ash-gray and bluish, sandy, alternating with sandy flags, increasing in number toward the bottom. The thickness may be said to average about forty feet, although it sometimes reaches sixty. The outcrop extends little beyond that of the Shenango sandstone, because the latter was its only protection from erosion. Fucoids and badly preserved shells are numerous in the lower shales.

The Sharpsville upper sandstone underlies the shales at Meadville ; and in some places the increase of muddy material upward is the only limiting circumstance. Layers of fine bluish-gray or grayish-brown flagstone, from one to two feet thick, alternate with thin layers of grayish shale. Rarely the shale amounts to one-third of the mass ; often to so little that the flags are almost a solid series. Quarried in districts destitute of better stone, this deposit affords building materials for cellar walls and other rough work. Good building stone is got from a layer three feet thick, just south of Atlantic Station ; also near Jamestown, at the county line, and at Miller's, two miles northwest of Jamestown, but its somber hue is disliked for building purposes. Poorly preserved shells are usually found in this stone, and sometimes fish remains. The Sharpsville upper sandstone mass in Crawford County is about fifty feet thick. Its outcrop ranges considerably north of that of the Shenango sandstone ; but except a few isolated knobs in the eastern part of Erie County, it does not stretch north of the Crawford County line.

The Meadville lower limestone is a thin bed of impure limestone, which at Meadville lies 235 feet above the canal bottom. It is wedged in between the Sharpsville upper and lower sandstones, weathering like them, and covered by their fragments. Seldom more than two feet thick, and often only one foot, it is nevertheless so persistent that it may be found in every part of Crawford County. From the base of the Sharon conglomerate down to the Meadville lower limestone, Prof. White found the interval in this county never

less than 190 feet. This limestone is very hard and flinty, breaking with the same peculiar fracture mentioned already in the description of the Meadville upper limestone. The hardness of these limestone beds compared with that of the measures enclosing them, causes little water-falls in the beds of the streamlets, descending the hill slopes; and in some places the water flows over the limestone stratum for a considerable distance above such a cascade. Non-fossiliferous in Crawford County, as a rule, this lower Meadville limestone differs in a striking manner from the upper one, and only at one or two localities in this county did Prof. White find any fish scales or shells. A very good and nearly pure white lime has been made from this stone in certain exceptional localities in Crawford County. On Deckard's Run it was once quarried to a considerable extent by Mr. Shuey and burned into plastering lime; but at other points the attempt resulted in failure, as the excess of sand in the rock produced in the lime a slag which rendered it almost worthless. Outcrops excellent for study, may be found in this county, near Jamestown; in the hollow down from the bridge below the Snodgrass quarry; near Meadville, in the cemetery grounds; at the hydraulic ram on Mill Run; at Geneva in the bed of the run just west of the railroad station; and at the heads of the ravines on the west branch of Cussewago Creek, in Hayfield Township.

The Sharpsville lower sandstone is a series of six-inch and two-foot flags, exactly like the upper sandstone. Its usual thickness is from ten to twelve feet, though in one place it measures thirty feet.

The Orangeville shales are generally of a dark bluish color, often holding small lenticular nodules of clay-iron stone, but more commonly weathering brown from disseminated iron. A few thin layers of sand are found scattered through the shales, which, in Crawford County, range from less than 60 to 120 feet in thickness, reaching the latter figure on Cussewago Creek, though the usual thickness throughout the county may be estimated at 100 feet. Shells and fish remains are distributed from top to bottom, and are its only fossils. The best fossil localities of the Orangeville shales in this county are as follows: the ravines of Hayfield Township, right bank of Cussewago Creek; the ravines of Mead and East Fairfield Township, left bank of French Creek, and the banks of the Shenango at Jamestown, where the Gibson well starts at the top of the shales. Good exposures are also frequent in the common road cuttings of Richmond, Randolph, Woodcock, Vernon, Sadsbury, Summit and Summerhill Townships.

The Oil Lake Group is composed of the Corry sandstone, the Cussewago limestone, shales, and sandstone, and the Riceville shale. In the Gibson well at Jamestown, the record gives thirty feet fine blue sand, sixty-five blue slate, and five feet of coarse light colored sand; total, 100 feet. At Oil Creek Lake the whole thickness is 130 feet. The Corry sandstone presents similar features in all of the numerous quarries of this region. It rises from the bed of Oil Creek, near Titusville; is finely exposed along Pine Creek; and identified along Thompson's run with the third mountain sand of the Pleasantville wells, in Venango County. North of Titusville, just below Kerr's mill-dam, on Thompson's run, is a fine massive ledge of it; and from here up, both sides of Oil Creek, it can be studied at Hydetown, Centerville, Riceville, and at Dobbins' quarry on Oil Creek Lake. Along French Creek it shows itself in many ravines, and was once quarried in the bluff opposite Meadville. On Cussewago Creek, at Little's Corners, and on the run a mile above, a considerable amount of Corry sandstone has been taken out. At Mr. Montgomery's extensive quarries, in Summerhill Township, two and a half miles south-east of Conneautville, it is ten feet thick. In Pine Township, just north of Linesville, and also in the hills one mile east of the Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad station at Linesville, are quar-

ries from which much thin stone has been taken for well work, etc. Near the northwest corner of North Shenango Township, its outcrop passes into Ohio. Its rise northward up Oil Creek Valley shoots it over all of Erie County except a few of the highest hills in the southeastern portion.

The Cussewago limestone greatly resembles the Meadville upper and lower limestones, and shows the same glassy fracture, but is a better limestone. It underlies the Meadville lower limestone from 120 to 130 feet, and no fossils have been discovered in it in this county. In Cussewago valley it may be seen in several ravines; and it is finely exposed on Mr. Line's farm, a mile and a half below Little's Corners. One mile west of Venango, in Venango Township, in Kleckner's ravine, it is two feet thick; and blocks of it strewn along the run have made tolerably good lime. Here it underlies the top of the Corry sandstone by twenty feet.

The Cussewago shales separate the Corry sandstone above from the Cussewago sandstone below, and hold (near the top) the Cussewago limestone. In some places the interval between the two sandstones is filled, not with shales (with the limestone), but with sandy flags (without the limestone); and this accounts for the great thickness of the whole sandstone mass. The prevailing color of these shales is a bluish or ashen gray, and their average thickness is about thirty-five feet.

The Cussewago sandstone as it exhibits itself along the Cussewago valley is a very coarse rock, commonly of a bluish-brown color, and in many places contains pebbles; but its sand grains cohere so loosely, that the seemingly massive rock crumbles after a short exposure to a bed of sand. Where it crops out on the roadside near Summit Station in Conneaut Township it can be shoveled like beach sand. *Manganese oxide* (Wad) fills the crevices of the rock as exposed just west of Little's Corners, and is the probable agent in blackening the top of the formation elsewhere. At Meadville it lies in the hillsides 140 feet above French Creek. From French Creek to the Ohio line it can generally be traced by the sand along its disintegrated outcrop; but from French Creek eastward, it seems to become harder and more compact. On Oil Creek, it is a very hard sandstone, thirty feet thick. Its color is not always buff-brown; occasionally it is a dark green, or greenish blue. Fragments of wood are sometimes imbedded in it as at Bartholomew's in Hayfield Township; while flat quartz pebbles are seen in it at many localities.

The Riceville shale lies beneath the Cussewago sandstone and down to the first oil sand of the Venango group, a distance of about eighty feet. It is a series of very fossiliferous drab, bluish and gray, sandy shales, sometimes shaly sandstones. On Oil Creek this series is well exposed in the bluff just west of Riceville. On the right bank of French Creek, near the southern edge of Hayfield Township these shales may be seen under the Cussewago sandstone seventy-five feet thick. Fossils may be found abundantly at many places fifteen feet or more beneath the outcrop of the Cussewago sandstone. On Cussewago Creek, in a ravine just south of Little's Corners, a few thin layers of bituminous slate scattered through two or three feet of shale, twenty-five feet under the Cussewago sandstones (that is, fifty feet beneath its top line) were opened for cannel coal. The chippings would burn, but were mostly ashes; and the streaks never came together to form a bed.

Venango Oil Sand Group.—This group is divided into theVenango upper sandstone or first oil sand, upper shales, middle sandstone or second oil sand, lower shales, and lower sandstone or third oil sand. It must be distinctly understood that the first and second oil sands are of no account in Crawford County. But the Venango group, as such, is traceable through this region, not only by its relation to the Corry and Cussewago sandstone zone above it, and

its persistent thickness of from 250 to 350 feet ; but also, and especially, by a massive sand and sometimes gravel deposit at its base, which can be nothing else than the third oil sand, beneath which there are nothing but shales for hundreds of feet. Some radical changes of constitution take place in the Venango oil group toward its outcrop in Crawford County. The most practically important of these changes was discovered in the early years of the oil excitement, when a sufficient number of holes had been drilled northwest of Titusville to prove the absence of the oil sands as oil-bearing sands in all the country between the oil belt, which crosses lower Oil Creek and Lake Erie. A coarse sandstone is the only reservoir of free petroleum ; and a loose, gravelly sandstone is the only kind of "sand" from which an oil-producer expects a free flow of petroleum in large quantities at a time. The deposits of coarse, gravelly sand in the Venango group are confined to two narrow belts of country that do not touch Crawford County.

The Venango Upper Sandstone at Meadville is from twenty to twenty-five feet thick. It rises out of the bed of French Creek and runs along the west bank of the stream, and is easily traceable by frequent exposures northward. Two miles north of Saegertown the upper sandstone flags form a fine bluff on the east bank of French Creek, where twenty feet of coarse dark-brownish sandstone layers, one to two feet thick, are cut through by the railroad.

The Venango Upper Shale is of a pale-blue color and underlies the first oil sand from ninety to 100 feet thick. Occasional thin sandy layers are seen, and these sometimes thicken into sandy flags. Fossil shells are quite abundant in most places where the shales appear.

The Venango Middle Sandstone follows the upper shales and is exposed along some of the streams in Erie County, and its presence is indicated in Crawford by the shape of the ground, and borings along Oil Creek and other localities.

The Venango Lower Shales form the interval of from 100 to 125 feet between the Venango middle and lower sandstones, and are composed of blue, gray and brown shales, very fossiliferous. Sometimes the whole interval wears a dark colored aspect. The rock when broken is as hard as flint ; but of its old exposed surfaces nothing is left but the soft, earthy, darkened matrix, all the line of the fossils having been dissolved, the decomposition often penetrating to the depth of a foot. Many of the scattered blocks yet retain a core of the hard rock.

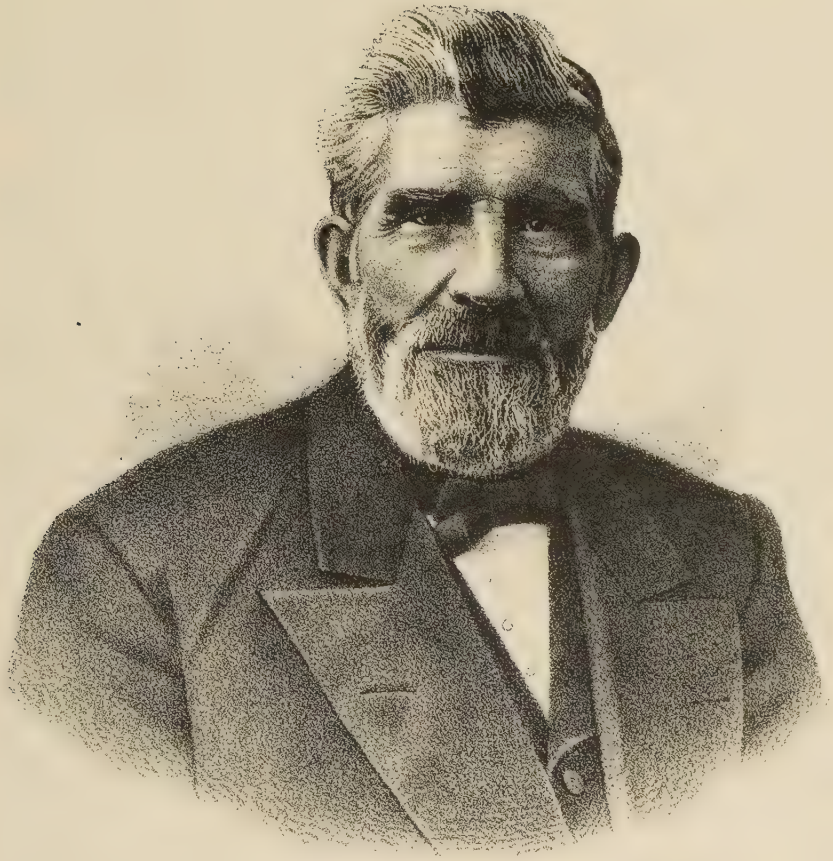
The Venango Lower Sandstone is the famous "third oil sand" of the old oil region, and borings between Titusville and Lake Erie enabled Prof. White to establish its existence in different portions of Crawford County. The outcrop encloses Conneaut Creek for four miles above and below Spring Borough, in Spring Township, which is the only place that Prof. White found it exposed in this county. Its varying depths place it 750 feet beneath the Sharon conglomerate; and its exposures always show it charged with petroleum, even where it is sand and not gravel rock. Its lower layers yield excellent building stone nearly everywhere; and it is the principal quarry rock of Erie County. In Crawford a number of bore-holes have struck the Venango lower sandstone at various depths, and at some of these holes it contains more or less petroleum. Its frequent exhibitions have been a fruitful source of vain hope and bootless enterprise to explorers. The quantity of petroleum which the deposit originally held cannot now be estimated. For ages the oil has been seeping away from it in springs, and escaping through its surface outcroppings. The whole deposit in Crawford County seems to be now practically voided, as the dry holes show but a residuum of oil, lowered in gravity and partly oxidized still remains.

CHAPTER VIII.

LAND PROVISION MADE FOR PENNSYLVANIA SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION BY THE ACT OF 1780—DEPRECIATION CERTIFICATES—ACT OF 1783—DEPRECIATION LANDS—DONATION LANDS—SURVEY AND DISTRIBUTION OF MILITARY LANDS WEST OF THE ALLEGHENY RIVER—UNSEATED LANDS—ACT OF 1792—PREVENTION CLAUSE IN SAID ACT, AND THE LITIGATION AND TROUBLES ARISING THEREFROM—ORGANIZATION OF LAND COMPANIES—HOLLAND LAND COMPANY—PENNSYLVANIA POPULATION COMPANY—NORTH AMERICAN LAND COMPANY—JOHN REYNOLDS' REMINISCENCES OF THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE SETTLERS AND LAND COMPANIES, AND THE INJURY THEREBY INFLICTED ON THE SETTLEMENT AND PROSPERITY OF THE COUNTY.

THE beginning of the Revolutionary war, and the subsequent difficulties occasioned by a patriotic people struggling for liberty, without the means of supporting an army, led to considerations which eventually resulted in a resolution to give to the soldier a permanent reward for his sacrifices, while engaged in freeing the country from the tyrannical oppression of English rule. The rapid depreciation of Continental currency, and the consequent rise in articles of necessity, from 1777 to 1781, rendered it essential that some additional provisions should be made toward remunerating those who bore the heat and burden of the day; those who had left their homes and families to fight the battle of freedom. Impressed with a deep sense of indispensable duty, the Pennsylvania Legislature passed a law, on the 7th of March, 1780, declaratory of their intentions that the officers and soldiers of this State in the service of the United States, who should serve during the war or die in the service, should have lands granted to them or their heirs at the end of the war, as a gift or donation, to remunerate them in some degree for services rendered, for the payment of which the Continental wages were so inadequate.

During the Revolution, the value of the "bills of credit" issued by the State, as well as those issued by Congress, gradually depreciated from one to almost one hundred per cent.; and it was found very difficult to decide the amount of depreciation to be deducted in the payment of debts contracted during this period. To obviate this difficulty the Legislature passed a law, on the 3d of April, 1781, fixing a scale of depreciation, from one and one-half to seventy-five per cent, varying for each month between January, 1777, and February, 1781, according to which all debts should be settled. For the indebtedness of the Commonwealth to Pennsylvania troops serving in the United States Army, certificates were given in conformity with this scale, and these, called "Depreciation Certificates," were receivable in payment for all new lands sold by the State. Though the lands lying northwest of the Ohio and Allegheny Rivers were not purchased from the Six Nations until the treaty of Fort Stanwix, in October, 1784, which sale was confirmed by some of the Western tribes at Fort McIntosh, in January, 1785, yet the State of Pennsylvania passed an act on the 12th of March, 1783, the more effectually to provide for the redemption of the depreciation certificates, ordering to be surveyed and laid off in lots of not less than 200, nor more than 350 acres, the territory bounded by the Ohio and Allegheny on the southeast, as far up the latter as the mouth of the Mahoning Creek; thence by a line due west to the western boundary of the State, and thence south to the Ohio.



R. E. Johnson

These lands, known as "Depreciation Lands," were to be sold at such times and under such regulations as the Executive Council might direct; but a tract of 3,000 acres opposite Pittsburgh and 3,000 acres at Fort McIntosh (Beaver) were reserved for public uses.

In fulfillment of the promise made by the act of 1780, the act passed March 12, 1783, also ordered to be laid off another tract north of the depreciation lands, and bounded as follows: Beginning at the mouth of the Mahoning Creek, on the Allegheny River, thence up that river to the mouth of Conewango Creek; thence up that creek to the southern boundary of the State of New York; thence west along that line to the northwest corner of Pennsylvania; thence south along the western boundary of the State last mentioned, to a point due west of the mouth of Mahoning Creek; and thence east along the northern boundary of depreciation lands, to the place of beginning. These were called "Donation Lands," and divided into districts from No. 1 to No. 10. A part of the 6th district, all of the 7th and nearly all of the 8th are within Crawford County. On the 24th of March, 1785, an act was passed by the Legislature providing for the appointment of Deputy Surveyors, each deputy being enjoined by law and directed by the Surveyor-General to complete the work committed to his care, on or before the 1st of February, 1786. Under this act Deputy Surveyor William Power, with his company of intrepid assistants, laid off the 6th and 7th districts, and Deputy Surveyor Alexander McDowell the 8th district of donation lands, though the work was prosecuted at the peril of their lives, as the prowling bands of Indians that infested the country looked with jealous eye upon this first step toward the occupancy of their hunting-grounds.

The lands were surveyed into lots of from 200 to 500 acres each, and under the law a Major-General was entitled to 2,000 acres; a Brigadier-General, 1,500; a Colonel, 1,000; a Lieut.-Colonel, 750; a Surgeon, Chaplain and Major, 600 each; a Captain, 500; a Lieutenant, 400; an Ensign and Surgeon's mate, 300 each; a Quartermaster-Sergeant, Sergeant-Major and Sergeant, 250 each; while each Corporal, Private, Drummer and Fifer was entitled to 200 acres. The eastern part of district No. 2, having been reported by Gen. William Irvine, the State Agent, as being generally unfit for cultivation, the tickets with the numbers of lots located therein were taken out of the wheel ere the drawing began, the selections being decided by lottery, and provision was made elsewhere for such officers and soldiers as were thus cut off. The territory thus respected was called the "Struck District." Various regulations and restrictions were established regarding the mode of survey, entry, transfer of title, and limit of time for perfecting the soldiers' titles to their lands; and the limit was extended from time to time by subsequent laws passed for the purpose of affording the veterans of the Revolution every facility to acquire a home. To fulfill the object of the depreciation and donation laws, it did not by any means require all the lands in Pennsylvania north and west of the Ohio and Allegheny Rivers, and the remainder, the "struck district" included, reverted to the Commonwealth, to be disposed of to other settlers.

The vast territory acquired by the treaties of Forts Stanwix and McIntosh, though purchased, could not be entered upon with safety for ten years afterward. Every creek that was explored, every line that was run, was at the risk of life from the savage Indians, whose courage and perseverance were only equaled by the indomitable energy of the whites in pushing forward their settlements The price of blood, as usual, was paid for it, for the Western tribes carried on a ferocious warfare against the hardy frontiersman, as he advanced farther and farther into the dense forest then covering the whole region between the Ohio and Lake Erie.

By the act of 1783 some six or seven hundred thousand acres of land in northwestern Pennsylvania, were isolated under circumstances very unfavorable to the settlement of the region. The title was absolute, without condition of settlement or improvement; and no one was willing to venture into so vast a wilderness, not knowing if in his life-time he would have a neighbor or road in his vicinity. Many of these lots were disposed of by the soldiers soon after they were drawn and the patent received, and thus became the property of speculators at small cost. But when alienated by the soldiers, these lands were subject to taxation, and in the course of years, either by inadvertence, or a belief that the land was not worth the expenditure, the owner permitted the sale in default of payment of taxes; and being sold at the county seat of each county in which the lands were located, many of the lots were purchased by residents of the county, and inroads of settlement began at once to be made upon them.

With a view of bringing into market the unseated lands, as well as to encourage an increase of population on the western frontier of the State, and thus place a barrier between the Six Nations and the Western tribes of Indians, the Legislature passed a law April 3, 1792, throwing open for sale all the vacant lands of the State included in the purchase of 1768 and previously, at the price of £2 10s. (Pennsylvania currency) per 100 acres; lands in the purchase of 1784–85, east of the Allegheny and Conewango, at £5 per 100 acres; and the lands north and west of the Ohio and Allegheny Rivers and Conewango Creek, except the donation and depreciation lots, at £7 10s. per 100 acres. No condition of settlement was attached to the lands east of the Allegheny; but those northwest of that river were only offered for sale "to persons who will cultivate, improve and settle the same, or cause the same to be cultivated, improved and settled," etc., at the price previously named, "with an allowance of six per cent for roads and highways." Any person intending thus to settle was entitled, on application and payment, with a proper description of the land, to receive from the land-office a warrant ordering a survey of the tract, not exceeding 400 acres. Surveys could not be made on lands actually settled previous to the entry of the warrant, except for such actual settler himself. The most important portion of this celebrated law, and that which caused all the trouble during the pioneer days in northwestern Pennsylvania, reads as follows:

Section 9. That no warrant or survey, to be issued or made in pursuance of this act, for lands lying north and west of the rivers Ohio and Allegheny, and Conewango Creek, shall vest any title in or to the lands therein mentioned, unless the grantee has, prior to the date of such warrant, made, or caused to be made, or shall, within the space of two years next after the date of the same, make, or cause to be made, an actual settlement thereon, by clearing, fencing and cultivating at least two acres for every 100 acres contained in one survey, erecting thereon a messuage for the habitation of man, and residing or causing a family to reside thereon, for the space of five years next following his first settling of the same, if he or she shall so long live; and that in default of such actual settlement and residence, it shall and may be lawful to and for this Commonwealth to issue new warrants to other actual settlers for the said lands, or any part thereof, reciting the original warrants, and that actual settlements and residence have not been made in pursuance thereof, and so as often as defaults shall be made, for the time and in the manner aforesaid, which new grants shall be under and subject to all and every regulation contained in this act: *Provided, always nevertheless*: That if any such actual settler, or any grantee in any such original or succeeding warrant, shall, by force of arms of the enemies of the United States, be prevented from making such actual settlement, or be driven therefrom, and shall persist in his endeavors to make such actual settlement as aforesaid, then, in either case, he and his heirs shall be entitled to have and to hold the said lands, in the same manner as if the actual settlement had been made and continued.

For more than twenty years this proviso in the ninth section of the act of 1792 was the cause of serious and bitter litigation before the highest courts

of the State and Nation, the most distinguished lawyers and judges holding conflicting opinions upon the points at issue. The main question was settled in 1805, by a decision delivered by Chief Justice Marshall, of the United States Supreme Court, though this decision left open many secondary questions, which still continued to agitate the courts for years, and some of which were finally settled only by special legislation. In considering this subject it is important to keep in mind the disturbed state of the Western frontier at the time, and for three years after the passage of this law. "Though the great theater of the war," says Judge Washington, "lay far to the northwest of the land in dispute, yet it is clearly proved that this country during this period was exposed to the repeated irruptions of the enemy, killing and plundering such of the whites as they met with in defenseless situations. We find the settlers sometimes working out in the day-time, in the neighborhood of the forts, and returning at night within their walls for protection; sometimes giving up the pursuit in despair, and returning to the settled parts of the country, then returning to the country, and again abandoning it. We sometimes meet with a few men daring and hardy enough to attempt the cultivation of their lands; associating implements of husbandry with the instruments of war —the character of the husbandman with that of the soldier—and yet I do not recollect any instance in which, with this enterprising, daring spirit, a single, individual was able to make such a settlement as the law required."

As roads, mills and provisions were of immediate necessity, and individual settlers had not means sufficient to provide them, a liberal construction was given to the law, and land companies were organized whose combined efforts could accomplish all the law contemplated. Money was paid into the State Treasury, and warrants issued, sufficient to cover all the unappropriated lands. The Holland Land Company and the Pennsylvania Population Company were the most prominent, and composed of men of wealth and intelligence. The North American Land Company took up lands in the western and northeastern parts of Crawford County, but though recognized, with the others, in certain legislative provisions, little further is known of its origin or history. Stephen Barlow came to Meadville about 1820, as the first agent of the North American Land Company, and at his death was succeeded by Arthur Cullum, who subsequently purchased the company's lands. These companies selected men of business habits to superintend the opening of roads, building mills and forming depots of provisions, etc., for the convenience of settlers; also to act as attorneys in making contracts for the fulfillment of the law, by improvement and residence. Thus in the last years of the eighteenth century a beginning was made toward converting the wilderness west of the Allegheny River into a fruitful field.

At the close of the Revolution the United States owed a large sum of money to a syndicate of Dutch merchants, who had loaned it to Robert Morris, the distinguished financier of that period to assist in carrying on the war. These capitalists consisted of Wilhem Willink, and eleven associates, among whom were Nicholas Van Staphorst, Peter Stadnitski, Christian Van Eeghen, Hendrick Vollenhoven, and Rutger Jan Schimmelpenninck of the city of Amsterdam. Preferring to keep this money invested in this country, they formed themselves into a corporation called "The Holland Land Company," and purchased under the law of 1792, about 900,000 acres of land in Pennsylvania, besides a much greater amount in the State of New York. On the 21st of August 1793, the company, through its agents, Herman Leroy and William Bayard, merchants of New York City, paid to Hon. James Wilson of Philadelphia, one of the Supreme Judges of the United States, the sum of £34,860 in

specie, being the purchase money for 464,800 acres of land lying north and west of the rivers Ohio and Allegheny, and Conewango Creek.

The contract was for the sale and purchase of 499,660 acres of land between French Creek and the Allegheny River. It was stipulated that this land should consist partly of 912 tracts of 430 acres each, with allowance for roads and highways, which Mr. John Adhim, by a contract dated April 26, 1793, had engaged to secure to the said Judge Wilson ; and 250 tracts of 430 acres each were to be taken from lands entered for Judge Wilson by Mr. James Chapman, convenient to the first-named lands in point of location, the Holland Land Company having the right, if not satisfied with the latter tracts, to substitute other lands east of French Creek. The price to be paid for the land was to be three shillings and fourpence per acre, the six per cent of allowance for roads not to be included in the estimate, and the money to be paid as fast as required; with a provision in the conract that out of the money advanced, the company should hold £4,067 for fees and expenses of surveying ; £3,892 14s. for fees of patenting the tracts ; £2,614 10s. to pay the Receiver-General of the land office, for thirty acres of overplus land in each warrant ; and £978 for interest on the purchase money to the State since the day of application.

"The Holland Land Company," said Judge Yeates, during one of the cases tried before him, "have paid to the State the consideration money of 1,162 warrants, and the surveying fees on 1,048 tracts of land (generally 400 acres each), besides making very considerable expenditures by their exertions, honorable to themselves, and useful to the community, in order to effect settlements. Computing the sums advanced, the lost tracts by prior improvements and interferences, and the quantity of 100 acres granted to each individual for making an actual settlement on their lands, it is said that, averaging the whole, between $230 and $240 have been expended by the company on each tract." The surveys and patents for most of the tracts were made prior to 1800.

In 1795 a general agent had been appointed to superintend its affairs, a large store erected at Meadville, and more than $5,000 disbursed. The following year settlers were invited to locate on the lands, supply depots of provisions, implements and utensils established, and the funds for bringing families into the country liberally advanced. A bounty of 100 acres was also given for improving and settling each 400 acre tract in compliance with the law of 1792, with the privilege of purchasing more at $1.50 per acre. This gratuity, however, was abolished after 1805. About $22,000 were paid out during 1796, and $60,000 in 1797. In 1798 mills were erected, roads were opened through the wilderness, and other exertions made toward settling these lands, at an expenditure of about $30,000; and in 1799 more than $40,000 were disbursed in the same direction. By the close of 1880, about $400,000 had been expended by the Holland Land Company in the purchase and efforts to settle its lands lying in this State.

The general agent of the company had his office in Philadelphia, and Theophilus Cazenove filled the position from the organization of the company until 1799, when he was succeeded by Paul Busti, who served until July 23, 1824, his successor being John J. Vanderkemp, who held the position until 1836, when the affairs of the company were wound up. The headquarters of the local agent for the counties of Crawford, Erie, Warren and Venango were at Meadville. Samuel B. and Alexander Foster, jointly, filled the position throughout 1796–97–98 and a part of 1799. Maj. Roger Alden took charge in 1799 and served until the close of 1804. On the 1st of January, 1805, H. J. Huidekoper began his duties, which lasted until the 31st of December,

1836, when he purchased from the company its remaining lands in Crawford, Erie, Warren and Venango Counties; also some small interests in Otsego and Chenango Counties, New York and Berkshire County, Mass., for the sum of $178,400, the final conveyance being made to Mr. Huidekoper, December 23, 1839.

The company's lands in Crawford County were located in the Holland Land Districts, Nos. 2 and 7. All of the tracts in the former district, numbering from 1 to 236, are in this county; but only a portion of those in District No. 7 are in Crawford, the balance lying in Warren and Venango Counties. The Holland Land Company always required the purchaser of its lands to erect a house within one year from date of purchase, besides clearing ten acres of land within two years of the same date. These requirements materially assisted in the development of the country. It gave long credit, generally eight years for the payment of the purchase money, and the time was often extended to sixteen and twenty years, though the interest was always expected to be paid. When times were hard the agent accepted cattle at local prices, and these had to be driven to market over the mountains to Philadelphia.

"Few enterprises," says Mr. O. Turner in his history of the Holland Land Company in the State of New York, "have ever been conducted on more honorable principles than was that which embraced the purchase, sale and settlement of the Holland purchase. In all the instructions of the general to the local agents, the interest of the settlers and the prosperity of the country were made secondary in but a slight degree to their securing to their principals a fair and reasonable return for their investments. In the entire history of settlement and improvement of our widely extended country, large tracts of the wilderness have nowhere fallen into the hands of individuals and become subject to private or associate cupidity, where the aggregate result has been more favorable or advantageous to the settlers."

In a lecture delivered by Mr. Alfred Huidekoper before the Meadville Literary Union, in 1876, on the Holland Land Company, he says: "The history of the company is but a repetition, perhaps, of a common experience in life. It was encouraged at first to purchase a wilderness and put its money into the State treasury; this was an acceptable thing to do; when it sought re-imbursement out of the property so acquired, it incurred both professional and popular opposition, as large associations are apt to do. Keeping the even tenor of its way with fairness of purpose and integrity of action, it can safely entrust its record to the hands of the historian."

The Pennsylvania Population Company was an association of capitalists organized before the Holland Land Company, for the purpose of acquiring lands under the act of 1792. The subscriptions for stock were opened in May, 1792, and closed December 22 of the same year. The original subscribers were: P. Stadnitski, 300 shares; P. C. Van Eeghen, 150 shares; J. H. Vollenhoven, 150 shares; T. Tazenove, 200 shares; Nicholas Van Staphorst, 100 shares; John Nicholson, 535 shares; Walter Stewart, 150 shares; George Meade, 50 shares; Tench Francis, 10 shares; A. Gibson, 4 shares; James Wilson, 20 shares; Robert Morris, 100 shares; T. Kitland, 80 shares; J. Kitland, 21 shares; Ebenezer Denny, 2 shares; Robert Bowne, 100 shares; Aaron Burr, 524 shares; J. Ashton, 3 shares; C. Gau, 1 share. Total, 2,500 shares. The following gentlemen were the first officers: John Nicholson, President; William Irvine, John Hoge, Daniel Leet, Gen. Walter Stewart, George Meade and Theophilus Cazenove, Managers; Tench Francis, Cashier.

This company, early in 1792, located 390 warrants in the "Triangle," in what is now Erie County, and 250 warrants more on the waters of Beaver and

Shenango Creeks, amounting in all to about 260,000 acres. It subsequently took up 500 warrants more in Crawford and Erie Counties, all of which it paid for. Its tracts in Crawford County number from 632 to 843. The title to its lands was vested in the President and Board of Managers, to be held in common, and the proceeds divided pro rata among the stockholders. Any one transferring to the company a donation tract of 200 acres, was entitled to one share of the stock. The President and Board of Managers were empowered to convey 150 acres gratis to each of the first fifty families who should purchase and actually settle on the lands of the company under the law of 1792 ; and to the next 100 families a similar grant of 100 acres each was donated.

This company also established supply depots convenient to its lands, opened roads and erected mills. Its first operations in Crawford and Erie Counties, beginning with 1795, were successfully carried on under the supervision of the local agent, Thomas Rees, of Erie, who about 1802 was succeeded by Judah and Jabez Colt, the latter having his office at Meadville, and the former at Erie. In June, 1812, the company wound up its affairs. The remaining stock was sold at public auction, at Philadelphia, for the sum of $70,739, the proceeds distributed among the shareholders, and the lands conveyed to the respective purchasers. Though these companies purchased their lands at prices open to all and sold at local figures, nevertheless they were regarded by the majority of the early settlers with great disfavor. In fact, so deep did this feeling take root, that many good citizens at this late day look upon them as grasping, soulless corporations, whose ownership of such large bodies of lands retarded the settlement and growth of western Pennsylvania for many years.

In 1867 John Reynolds, Esq., a leading pioneer of Meadville, contributed a series of articles to the *Meadville Republican*, under the caption of "Reminiscences of the Olden Time," in which we find the following important information on the land troubles: " The prevention clause in the act of Assembly of 1792," says Mr. Reynolds, " was productive of much dissension in the first years of the century. The opinion was industriously circulated by Deputy Surveyors, and other interested persons, that every tract of 400 acres without a settlement commenced and continued, was open to the entry and occupancy of the first bona fide settler, without regard to the previous warrant. Settlers who had entered into contract with the several land companies to fulfill the terms of settlement for a part of the land, were disposed to claim the whole, under the plea that the companies had incurred forfeiture of the land, and therefore the contract was obtained by misrepresentation and was void.

" The warrantee was thus brought into conflict with the intruder upon his land. The latter relying on the legal correctness of the opinion so universally promulgated, took possession of the first and best vacant tract he could find, built his cabin, and commenced to clear and cultivate his farm; thus speedily the county was filled with a population known as 'actual settlers.'

" The companies that claimed the land by warrant, purchased from the State, were not disposed to submit quietly to the intrusion; they appealed to the courts of law and many writs of ejectment were served; the settlers held conventions, employed counsel, and prepared for an arduous contest. Lawful and unlawful measures were canvassed and approved by many, during the excitement of the time; unscrupulous and desperate men were leaders in the controversy, who contended that all means were morally right which would protect them in the possession of their land. Hence, in the heat of the excitement a plot was formed to destroy evidence in the county records and the offices of the land companies.

"A veritable gunpowder plot was projected to blow up the Prothonotary's office and the several land offices in Meadville and Erie. When on the eve of accomplishment, one of the conspirators relented, and with praiseworthy energy, prevented the catastrophe, by visiting and remonstrating with the principal leaders.

"The question at issue between the warrantee and settler turned upon the fact of prevention, and if proved, the obligation of persistence afterward in fulfilling the conditions of settlement and residence specified in the act. The companies claimed that a prevention operated in discharge of said obligation, and the title in the warrantee was perfected. By agreement, a case stated was put at issue, and argued before Judge Washington, of the United States Supreme Court, at Sunbury, Penn., and a decision on the above points given in favor of the warrantee. This settled, as between the warrantee and the intruder, the legal status of the dispute.

"Subordinate questions continued to agitate and produce discord, and conflicts between settlers arising from an entry upon an improved tract during a temporary absence of the first occupants, were frequent. Such a case is the following: A man without family would select his tract, build his cabin, and make some improvements, and in the autumn revisit the settlements to find winter employment, and upon his return in the spring find another in possession. Personal conflicts sometimes decided the question of ownership rather than await expensive litigation in court; while some, more wisely, canvassed the matter and settled by an amicable adjustment and payment of a reasonable compensation by one party to the other.

"That a wide-spread excitement, involving vested rights so dear to the claimants, and intensified in asperity by a commingling therewith the partizan politics of the day, should have been settled, and finally disappeared with so little of actual conflict, is in the review, very wonderful, and may, I think, be largely attributed to the overpowering religious excitement concurrent therewith, which tended to restrain and moderate the angry passions.

"Only one man, I think, was killed during all the years of conflict: that was the Sheriff or his deputy of Beaver County, who was proceeding with a warrant to dispossess a determined intruder, and was waylaid and shot as he approached the premises.

"The land disputes were very injurious to the prosperity of the country, and retarded its settlement many years. Men who had made large improvements abandoned all and went into what was known as the 'New State,' viz.: Ohio. A public prejudice unfavorable to this region, operated extensively, preventing emigration, while the contiguous parts of Ohio and New York were filling with an industrious and intelligent population."

CHAPTER IX.

AGRICULTURE—FIRST LAND CULTIVATED BY THE PIONEERS IN THE VALLEY OF FRENCH CREEK AND FIRST CORN CROP PLANTED—PIONEER NURSERY—INTRODUCTION OF POTATOES, WHEAT, RYE, BUCKWHEAT, OATS, BARLEY, ETC.—RAPID INCREASE OF THE CEREALS—HORSES AND CATTLE—MERINO SHEEP BROUGHT INTO THE COUNTY—ANECDOTE OF A SHEEP SPECULATION—SWINE OF THE PAST AND PRESENT—STOCK AND LAND IN 1826—WOOL PRODUCTION—LEADING FINE STOCK BREEDERS, DEALERS AND IMPORTERS—AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES OF CRAWFORD COUNTY—AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, THEIR CHANGES AND WONDERFUL IMPROVEMENT DURING THE PAST CENTURY—PIONEER MODE OF FARMING—DAIRY INTERESTS—FIRST CHEESE FACTORIES ERECTED IN THE COUNTY—THEIR RAPID INCREASE, AND PRESENT PROSPERITY OF THE BUSINESS—DAIRYMAN'S ASSOCIATION—DAIRYMAN'S BOARD OF TRADE.

IT was well understood by the people of the eastern and central portions of Pennsylvania, as well as by those in adjoining States, that the lands west of the Allegheny River were very fertile, and only three years elapsed after the treaties of 1784–85, before the first attempt at a settlement was made by a hardy band of pioneers, four of whom: David Mead, John Mead, Cornelius Van Horne and James Fitz Randolph, located permanently in the valley of French Creek. In May, 1788, these men, together with their five companions, Joseph Mead, Thomas Martin, John Watson, Thomas Grant and Christopher Snyder, having selected the rich bottom near where Vallonia now stands as a suitable field for agricultural enterprise, plowed about ten acres of ground, which they planted in Indian corn. A subsequent freshet in the creek destroyed the growing crop, and they were compelled to replant it, but the lateness of the season rendered the yield not very satisfactory. This then was the beginning of agriculture in Crawford County, and for several years the cultivation of the soil was carried on under great difficulties on account of Indian hostility. Small patches of ground in the vicinity of "Mead's Blockhouse" were tilled in common, and it was not until 1794–95, that the settlers could with any degree of safety locate on their respective homesteads, and even then there was imminent danger from the prowling bands of savages still infesting the forests from Lake Erie to the Ohio.

Soon after coming, Cornelius Van Horne planted some apple-seeds near the site of the west end of Mercer Street bridge, and the trees grown from these seeds obtained a fine growth, and were the foundation of the first orchards in French Creek Valley.

The potato was introduced prior to 1791, and was grown very successfully by the pioneers. It has continued from that time to the present to be an invaluable product of the county. The rich alluvial soil of the flats produced enormous crops of corn and potatoes, so that the early settlers had no fears of want, for the forest was alive with game, the streams abounded in fish, and the virgin soil yielded plentifully.

We do not learn that there was any wheat grown in the county prior to 1797, when Dr. Thomas R. Kennedy, the pioneer physician of northwestern Pennsylvania, brought a few quarts of excellent wheat in his saddle-bags, which he distributed among the farmers, who in a few years increased the amount

Jacob Wilson

to thousands of bushels. The newly cleared land was admirably adapted to the growth of wheat, and it is said that the farmer often obtained as high as thirty bushels of first-class wheat from one acre of ground.

In a short time rye was introduced and grown in considerable quantities, being largely used in the manufacture of whisky, while buckwheat, oats, barley and other grains had also made their appearance. The supply soon became greater than the demand for home consumption, and the prices of the cereals were generally very low from 1800 to 1830. All this was favorable to the substantial comfort of the people and the rapid settlement of the county. Very little grain excepting buckwheat has been shipped from Crawford County. This favored article was introduced at an early date, and the soil in many parts of the county was found well adapted to its production, both as to quality and quantity, which are not excelled by any other county in the State. The excellent quality of the buckwheat grown in this county early attracted the attention of dealers, and considerable quantities of the flour are shipped every winter to the larger cities.

Horses and cattle were brought in by the very first settlers, though the former were ordinary farm-horses, and the latter milch cows. The progressive farmer soon discovered that the soil of Crawford County generally was better adapted to grass than grain, and attention was early directed to stock-raising and feeding. In 1810 we find in the county 2,142 horses, 5,389 head of cattle, and 4,120 sheep.

In 1817 H. J. Huidekoper, Esq., in co-operation with Judge Griffith of New Jersey, brought several hundred Merino sheep into the county. They were kept on Mr. Huidekoper's premises, until the herding of so many together generated diseases which carried them off rapidly, and as a last resort, those remaining were distributed in small lots among the farmers to be cared for on shares as to increase. This proved a fortunate move, for they soon became healthy and multiplied rapidly, but were finally sold without further collective experiment.

The leading pioneers were always anxious to improve their stock, and whenever they possessed the means to purchase a well-bred animal rarely missed the opportunity of doing so. The following anecdote regarding a sheep speculation in Crawford County may be found in the *Crawford Weekly Messenger*, on file in the Public Library: A stranger called at the tavern of Thomas Fullerton, in what is now Cambridge Township, in the fall of 1812, driving a fine-looking ram; he asked for some oats with which to feed the animal, giving the landlord to understand that he was the only one left out of a drove of "Merinos" he had brought from the East. Anxious to possess one of that valuable breed, Mr. Fullerton made an offer to purchase him, but candidly confessed that $20 was all the money he had in the house. This sum was not deemed sufficient by the owner, but as he had disposed of all the others and was tired driving him, he expressed his willingness to take less for the ram than his actual value, finally agreeing to let Mr. Fullerton have him for $20 in cash, a cow and a rifle, which offer the latter eagerly accepted. The fellow soon departed, leaving the landlord well pleased with his "Merino;" but shortly afterward a neighbor called, and observing the animal, said, "Fullerton, where did you get my ram?" "Your ram!" exclaimed the surprised landlord. "Yes," continued the neighbor, "I sold him to a Yankee a few days ago for 12 shillings." On examining the ram, the duped and now thoroughly disgusted landlord soon discovered that he was of the common breed, but his wool had been very artfully combed in order to give him a Merino appearance.

The swine of the early settlers, compared with those of 1884, would pre-

sent a very wide contrast, for whatever the breed may have been called running wild as was customary, the special breed was soon lost in the mixed swine of the country. They were long and slim, long-snouted and long-legged, with an arched back, and bristles erect from the back of the head to the tail, slab-sided, active and healthy; the "sapling-splitter" or "razor back," as he was called, was ever in the search of food, and quick to take alarm. He was capable of making a heavy hog, but required two or more years to mature, and until a short time before butchering or marketing was suffered to run at large, subsisting mainly as a forager, and in the fall fattening on the "mast" of the forest. Yet this was the hog for a new country, whose nearest and best markets were Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, to which points they were driven on foot. Almost every farmer raised a few hogs for market, which were gathered up by drovers and dealers during the fall and winter seasons. In no stock of the farm have greater changes been effected than in the hog. From the long-legged, long-snouted, slab-sided, roach-backed, tall, long, active, wild, fierce and muscular, it has been bred to be almost as square as a store-box and quiet as a sheep, taking on 250 pounds of flesh in ten months. They are now ranked into distinctive breeds, the Berkshire and Chester White being more extensively bred in Crawford County than any other kind.

With the passing years every sort of stock gradually increased in numbers, and by 1826 the county contained 2,970 horses, 18,081 head of cattle, and 18,999 sheep, while the number of hogs was unknown, as many thousands roamed the forest like wild animals. Unimproved land sold from $3 to $4 per acre, and improved farms from $5 to $8 per acre. There was in that year 51,322 acres of land under cultivation, of which 12,169 acres were in meadow, or nearly one-quarter of the whole amount of cleared land devoted to grazing purposes. The result has been that the business of stock-raising became a specialty with many of the best farmers, and a large amount of stock, principally cattle and horses, has been annually shipped from Crawford County to other and less favored portions of the country. In 1850 the county produced more than 1,000,000 pounds of wool, and had attained a notoriety as a wool-growing district, but the growth of sheep gradually fell off until, in 1875, the wool product did not exceed 200,000 pounds.

The Logan Brothers, of South Shenango Township, were for many years leading importers of draft horses, and did a great deal toward improving that class of stock in this portion of the State. Ambro Whipple, of Saegerstown, has been breeding roadsters for some years. Denny Brothers, of Hayfield Township, breed draft horses and roadsters, also Shropshire sheep and short-horn cattle; Alt Stratton, of Evansburg, roadsters and trotting stock, and C. G. Dempsey, of Conneautville, thoroughbred racers.

"Shadeland," the great stock farm of the Powell Brothers, is located about one mile north of Spring Borough, in Spring Township. It is not the creature of a day, but has grown up to its present proportions as the result of many years of careful and unusually intelligent effort and experiment, until to-day the estate comprises over one thousand acres of choice land, improved by a handsome residence, and half a hundred substantial and capacious barns, stables and out-buildings, admirably adapted to the various uses and purposes of the business, the whole with its magnificent aggregation of stock representing an investment of more than a quarter of a million dollars. The business embraces the extensive importation and breeding of pure-bred live stock of various classes, notably the celebrated Clydesdale draft horses from Scotland, the English draft horses from England, the Percheron-Norman draft horses from the best breeding districts of France, American trotting-bred roadsters, imported

coachers, and Shetland ponies; also Holstein and Devon cattle, and Highland black-faced sheep, said to be among the finest mutton sheep known. The Clydesdale Stud book of Great Britain shows more animals registered by Powell Bros. than any other five firms in the world combined. This book is published under the direction of the "Clydesdale Horse Society" of Great Britain and Ireland, and hence is absolutely authentic, and indeed the ultimate authority on this subject. The sales at the farm often aggregate several thousand dollars a day, the purchasers representing nearly every State and Territory in the Union, sometimes a score or more of them being there at once. They have also made various shipments of their trotting-bred roadsters to Europe. As an evidence of the national repute of the establishment it may be mentioned, that not long since the firm received a communication from Dr. Loring, United States Commissioner of Agriculture at Washington, stating that a citizen of Japan was visiting this country for the purpose of collecting for his Government information concerning our agricultural and other industrial methods, and asking that he might be permitted to spend a few days at Shadeland, as a means of posting himself as to American stock-breeding. While draft horses are the special feature there, all classes of their stock receive equal attention, and only the very finest of each are imported and bred. The gentlemen composing the firm are Watkin G., Will B., and James Lintner Powell, all of whom are natives of Shadeland, having been born on the estate, which they have always occupied, and with which their names are so indissolubly linked.

Mr. Edgar Huidekoper, of Meadville, is the most extensive importer and breeder of the celebrated Holstein cattle in this portion of the Commonwealth. He began in March, 1878, by importing from Holland two bulls and ten cows, and later in the same year brought over eight more. He increased his importations from time to time, until they might be numbered by the hundred. His stock farm of several hundred acres lies just across French Creek from Meadville, in Vernon Township. Mr. Huidekoper has on hand usually from 200 to 250 Holsteins, and his sales extend to every part of the United States.

Among other smaller breeders of fine stock may be mentioned William Skelton, of Mead Township, a Canadian, who, for some six or eight years, bred short-horns of the celebrated New York Mills stock; J. B. Cochran, also of Mead, was a breeder of Durhams for a few years; J. W. Cutshall, of Randolph Township, has been breeding short-horns about ten years; John Bell and David Gill, of Woodcock Township, have been in the short-horn business about five years; and G. W. Watson, of Hayfield Township, has been quite a large breeder of Merino sheep for some years, and though still in the business does not carry it on so extensively as formerly.

The many fairs held under the auspices of the several agricultural societies of Crawford County have, doubtless, accomplished more towards building up its stock interests than all the other agencies combined. In 1852 the Crawford County Agricultural Society was organized at Conneautville, and held its first fair in that town the same year. Annual exhibitions have since been held, which have increased in patronage and importance until now these fairs are among the best and most flourishing in Pennsylvania. The grounds are located near the southeast corner of Conneautville, and are both spacious and well improved.

The Crawford County Central Agricultural Association was organized at Meadville in 1856, with David Derickson, President, and J. J. Shryock, Treasurer. About sixteen acres of land were purchased on the "Island," where the depot now stands, fitted up with appropriate buildings, and the first fair held in the fall of 1856. From that time until 1861, inclusive, very successful

annual fairs were held on these grounds, but in the latter year the site was sold to the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad Company, and some ten acres purchased in Kerrtown. Here fairs continued to be held for five years, with varying success, the patronage having gradually fallen off from the time the old grounds were disposed of. The Kerrtown site proving too small was laid off into lots, and subsequently sold at Sheriff's sale. Forty acres of land were leased near Vallonia, and annual fairs kept up for about five years, when the project was abandoned, and the association dissolved. Some of the members of the old society then formed the "Farmers' and Stock Breeders' Association," which held exhibitions in 1873–74–75 and 1876, when it too ceased to exist. In 1879 "The Crawford County Central Agricultural Association" was re-organized, and in the fall of that year held a fair on the Vallonia grounds. Another fair was given the following year, which was the last, as the prospect fell through for want of patronage. The grounds have since been utilized for annual spring races, though the land is mostly under cultivation.

The Oil Creek Valley Agricultural Association was organized and held its first fair in the fall of 1875. Its capacious grounds are located on the northwestern suburbs of Titusville, and since its organization annual fairs have been held with increasing attendance and success.

In the fall of 1876 the farmers of Woodcock Township and vicinity held a fair at Grange Hall, in the village of Woodcock, under the auspices of the Woodcock Grange. These exhibitions were continued for a few years, but finally abandoned. A stock company was then formed, and the Woodcock Fair Association organized. Grounds were leased in the western suburbs of Woodcock Village, where fairs were held in the fall of 1882 and 1883. The society is now a permanent institution, and the exhibitions of 1882 and 1883 were successful beyond the most sanguine expectations of their projectors.

The French Creek Valley Agricultural Society was organized in the summer of 1877, and the first fair held at Cochranton, October 9, 10 and 11 of that year. Annual fairs have been held since that time, and have been largely attended and proven a gratifying success. The grounds contain about twenty-five acres, a half-mile track and good buildings, while the society is one of the most flourishing in the county.

The agricultural implements in use by the early settlers were very simple and rude. The plow was made entirely of wood, except the share, clevis and draft-rods, which were of iron, and had to be for a number of years transported from Pittsburgh, as there were no iron works in the county where the plowshares could be forged, until about 1800. The wooden plow was a very awkward implement, very difficult to hold and hard for the team to draw. It was however, very generally used until the fall of 1824, when the cast-iron plow, patented by Jethro Wood, was first brought into the county, though it did not gain popular favor very rapidly. The farmer looked at it and was sure it would break the first time it struck a stone or a root, and then how should he replace it? The wooden mould-board would not break, and when it wore out he could take his ax and hew another out of a piece of a tree. In no one agricultural implement has there been more marked improvement than in the plow—now made of beautifully polished cast-steel except the beam and handles, while in Canada and some portions of the United States these, too, are manufactured of iron. The cast-steel plow of the present manufacture, in its several sizes, styles and adaptations to the various soils and forms of land, including the sulky or riding plow of the Western prairies, is among agricultural implements the most perfect in use.

Plows possessing some of Wood's improvements were manufactured in

Birmingham, near Pittsburgh, and brought to this county in considerable numbers from 1824 to 1830, and probably some were made here prior to the last named date. About this time Wood's agents, or the assignees of the patents, were traveling over the county collecting royalties from the farmers for using their patents. This continued to be a burden upon many in this county until 1848–49, when Hon. John W. Farrelly, an eminent lawyer of Meadville, and Member of Congress from this district, succeeded in defeating a bill introduced in the House for the extension of Wood's patents on the plow. The manufacturers of Birmingham, Penn., to show their appreciation of Mr. Farrelly's efforts to relieve them of this load, made and sent to him, in 1849, a plow made entirely of metal, beautifully polished. This is said to have been the first complete iron plow manufactured in this country, and was on exhibition at the store of John McFarland in Meadville for several months.

The pioneer harrow was simply the fork of a tree, with the branches on one side cut close and on the other left about a foot long to serve the purpose of teeth. In some instances a number of holes were bored through the beams and dry wooden pins driven into them. It was not until about 1825 that iron or steel harrow teeth were introduced into Crawford County.

The axes, hoes, shovels and picks were rude and clumsy, and of inferior utility. The sickle and scythe were at first used to harvest the grain and hay, but the former gave way early to the cradle, with which better results could be attained with less labor. The scythe and cradle, have been replaced by the mower and reaper to a great extent, though both are still used considerably in this county because of the hilly and rolling surface of the country, as well as the great numbers of stumps yet remaining in the newer clearings.

The ordinary wooden flail was used to thresh grain until about 1830, when the horse-power thresher was largely substituted. The method of cleaning the chaff from the grain by the early settlers was by a blanket handled by two persons. The grain and the chaff were placed on the blanket, which was then tossed up and down, the wind separating a certain amount of the chaff from the grain during the operation. Fanning-mills were introduced about 1820, but the first of these were very rude and little better than the primitive blanket. Improvements have been made from time to time until an almost perfect separator is now connected with every threshing machine, and the work of ten men for a whole season is done more completely by two or three men, as many horses, and a patent separator, in one day. In fact, it is difficult to fix limitations upon improvements in agricultural machinery within the last fifty years. It is, however, safe to say that they have enabled the farmer to accomplish more than triple the amount of work with the same force in the same time, and do his work better than before. It has been stated on competent authority that the saving effected by new and improved implements within the last twenty years has been not less than one-half on all kinds of farm labor.

The greatest triumphs of mechanical skill in its application to agriculture are witnessed in the plow, planter, reaper and separator, as well as in many other implements adapted to the tillage, harvesting and subsequent handling of the immense crops of the country. The rude and cumbrous implements of the pioneers have been superseded by improved and apparently perfect machinery of all classes, so that the calling of the farmer is no longer synonymous with laborious toil, but pleasant recreation.

The farmers of Crawford County are not behind their neighbors in the employment of improved methods in the use of the best machinery. It is true that in many cases they were slow to change, but much allowance should be

made for surrounding circumstances. The pioneers of this county had to contend against innumerable obstacles—with the wildness of nature outlined in towering hills "rock-ribbed and ancient as the sun," with the jealous hostility of the Indians, the immense growth of timber, the depredations of wild beasts and the annoyance of the swarming insect life, as well as the great difficulty and expense of procuring seeds and farming implements. These various difficulties were quite sufficient to explain the slow progress made in the first years of settlement. Improvements were not encouraged, while much of the topography of the county renders the use of certain kinds of improved machinery impossible. The people generally rejected book-farming as unimportant and useless, and knew little of the chemistry of agriculture. The farmer who ventured to make experiments, to stake out new paths of practice, or to adopt new modes of culture, subjected himself to the ridicule of the whole neighborhood. For many years the same methods of farming were observed, the son planted just as many acres of corn as his father did, and in the same old phases of the moon. All their practices were merely traditional; but within the last twenty-five years most remarkable changes have occurred in all the conditions of agriculture in this county.

It is not, however, in grain-growing that Crawford County has made its most material progress. The natural adaptation of the soil to grass and the abundant supply of pure water have attracted the attention of farmers to the raising of stock, and the manufacture of butter and cheese, especially the latter, which industry has increased until it has become the leading agricultural pursuit, exceeding all other branches of farming in its magnitude and importance, and promising to be the source of still greater prosperity and wealth to the whole community. Milch cows were introduced into this county as early as 1789, and have been raised here ever since. Butter and cheese had been manufactured in a small way, and about sufficient to supply the home demand until 1849, when the first attempt was made at factory cheese-making, by Clark & Stebbins at Mosiertown, Cussewago Township, where they turned out what was called "English Dairy Cheese," weighing about sixteen pounds each and selling for 3 cents per pound. Another factory was built in the same village by Mosier & McFarland, in 1850, which continued in operation some three years, when the parties engaged in other business, and this system of factory cheese-making came to an end. In subsequent years many large dairies existed in the eastern part of the county. From 1850 to 1862, cheese sold from 5 to 8 cents per pound; and from 1862 to 1867, at an average of 13 cents.

The first factory under the present system of cheese-making was erected by George Thomas, at Cambridgeboro, in 1867, and received the milk from 250 cows the first year, 600 the third, and 820 the sixth year. The average price of cheese in those years was about 12 cents per pound. The second factory, known as the "Woodcock First Premium," was built at Woodcock in 1868, by D. H. Gibson & Co., and made the first year 27,000 pounds of cheese, the second year 68,000 pounds, and in 1878, 145,000 pounds. Another early factory was built by Charles Cummings, on Gravel Run, in Woodcock Township, which is now owned by Mr. Magaw. It was operated very successfully by Mr. Cummings until his death. In 1870 we find eight cheese factories in operation in Crawford County, which by 1875 had increased to sixty eight, with a combined annnal product of 6,310,000 pounds of cheese. In 1878 but sixty-one factories were running, manufacturing 5,650,347 pounds of cheese during that season. This netted the producer a little over 10 cents per pound, or a total of $566,034 more revenue from cheese than all the rest of the State obtained during the same time from that product.

By 1879 many cheese factories in Crawford County had become unremunerative. In this year Mr. L. C. Magaw, of Meadville, entered the business by purchasing one factory, and has added to this from time to time until he has now in operation seven factories in Crawford County, and two in Erie, besides controlling and handling the product of four others. These factories are located in different parts of the county, viz.: Two in Woodcock Township, one each in Hayfield, Cambridge, Richmond and Randolph; two in Cussewago, and one each in Spring, Summit and Sadsbury. The factories located in Spring, Cussewago and Hayfield Townships are not owned by Mr. Magaw, but their product is manufactured on his plan, stamped with his brand, and handled by him. His trade extends throughout the United States, the demand always being equal to the production. He manufactures and controls only the celebrated brand known as "Crawford's Favorite," and his product always commands a price equal to the best New York State cheese.

There are twenty-two other cheese factories in Crawford County, located as follows: Three in Conneaut Township, one each in Spring, Pine, South Shenango and Cussewago, two in Venango, one in Cambridge, three in Rockdale, two in Richmond, one in Mead, two in Randolph and one each in Troy, Rome, Bloomfield and Sparta. There is also a Switzer cheese factory in Mead Township, which does a flourishing business in that product. Most of these factories are connected with the Dairyman's Board of Trade, and manufacture solely for export, their product being consigned to New York agents. It is estimated that the thirty-three cheese factories, now in operation in Crawford County, will each average 100,000 pounds annually, or a total of 3,300,000 pounds, which at the market price of 10 cents per pound, adds $330,000 to the annual wealth of the county. It might also be stated here that each factory consumes the milk of 500 cows, making a total of 16,500 cows to the thirty-three factories. It will be seen that the cheese product of Crawford County, in 1884, is only about half as large as it was in 1875, having never since reached the amount produced that year. There can, however, be little doubt that the cheese now manufactured is much superior to the article turned out in past years, and that the quality makes up in a great measure for the falling off in production. The value of the butter trade of this county cannot easily be estimated, but though small in comparison with the cheese interests, it too is in a flourishing condition.

No other part of the State offers such favorable inducements to persons desirous of engaging in the dairy business as Crawford County. Its cheap lands, rich and nutritious grasses and abundant supply of pure soft water combine to make it attractive to many who would engage in healthy and remunerative employment. Since 1867, about two-thirds of the entire product of cheese in Crawford County have been exported at an average valuation of about 10 cents per pound. This has added largely to her material prosperity in every department of business, and it is impossible to fully realize without a thorough study of the subject the great advantages derived from this most important branch of her industries.

One of the leading factors in building up the present flourishing dairy industries of northwestern Pennsylvania was the Dairyman's Association. On the 15th of April, 1871, the dairymen of Crawford and Erie Counties met at Venango and organized the "Crawford County Dairyman's Association," with the following officers: Joseph Blystone, President; H. C. Greene, J. H. Blystone and Thomas Van Horne, Vice-Presidents; D. H. Gibson, Secretary; J. H. Marcy, Treasurer. The gentlemen present who organized the association were: Joseph Blystone, Thomas Van Horne, Cornelius Van Horne, William

Morse, D. C. Root, D. H. Gibson, E. Chamberlain, George Thomas, J. H. Blystone, William Nash, D. M. Crouch, G. W. Cutshall, J. T. Cook, J. H. Marcy, G. N. Kleckner, H. C. Greene, Darius Coulter, G. W. Brown, Adam Sherred, L. E. Townley, J. M. Bigger and S. F. Harned. This society accomplished but little, and June 2, 1875, was re-organized as the "Pennsylvania State Dairyman's Association," with A. M. Fuller, of Meadville, as President. At that time there were in western Pennsylvania about 100 cheese factories. Owing to the fact that the association was then supported wholly by membership fees, it was unable to extend its work beyond the confines of the northwestern counties. In 1879 the proceedings of the association were published in the State Agricultural Report, for which it received from the State Agricultural Society the sum of $100. In 1880 the association secured an annual appropriation from the State of $350, and 500 copies of the report, with the privilege of using 100 pages of the report every year. Two meetings have been held annually since 1875, at which addresses have been delivered by almost every prominent dairyman in the country. These meetings have been well attended, and not a single failure has occurred, while on some occasions over 500 persons were present.

The last annual meeting of the association was held at Meadville February 6 and 7, 1884. The association held a dairy fair in Meadville October 23, 24, 25, 1877, the first of the sort held in the United States. Large exhibitions of cheese have been made by the association at all the recent fairs of the State Agricultural Society, and it participated in the first international dairy fair held in New York City. "As to the good accomplished during these years," says Mr. A. M. Fuller, "I can state that I believe dairying as a business in the western part of the State owes its success mainly to this organization; and while we believe we have been directly benefitted by this organization in western Pennsylvania, we trust that the publication of our report annually in 25,600 copies of the State Agricultural Report for the past five years has proved of advantage to the dairy interests in every portion of the Commonwealth."

The Dairyman's Board of Trade was organized at Meadville, January 3, 1872, its charter members being T. H. McCalmont, E. F. Stountz, Joseph Blystone, D. C. Root, R. L. Stebbins, Thomas Van Horne, H. C. Greene, D. H. Gibson, J. H. Marcy, William Morse and J. H. Blystone. It had a lingering existence until the re-organization of the Dairyman's Association in 1875, when the following officers were chosen: L. C. Magaw, President of the board; H. C. Greene, Secretary, and S. B. Dick, Treasurer. In 1882 the headquarters of the Board of Trade were removed from Meadville to Cambridgeboro, which is a more central point for the factories now belonging to it. The dairy interests of Crawford County are looked upon with pride by her citizens, as well they might be, for there is a larger amount of cheese manufactured within her limits than in all the balance of the State combined.

A. B. Richmond

CHAPTER X.

PRIMITIVE APPEARANCE OF CRAWFORD COUNTY—TIMBER, AND FRUIT-BEARING TREES AND VINES—ROOTS AND HERBAGE—PIONEER DAYS AND TRIALS—HABITATIONS OF THE FIRST SETTLERS—FURNITURE—FOOD AND MEDICINE—HABITS, LABOR AND DRESS—EARLY MANNERS AND CUSTOMS—"BEES" AND WEDDINGS—THE HOMINY BLOCK AND PIONEER MILLS—STORE GOODS AND PRODUCE—OLD CASH BOOK AT FORT FRANKLIN—MODE OF LIVING—CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS—PERIOD OF 1812-15—ALFRED HUIDEKOPER'S LIST OF WILD ANIMALS, BIRDS AND REPTILES—AN OLD SETTLER—GAME—THE INHABITANTS OF NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA PETITION THE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT A LAW FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF SQUIRRELS—HUNTS INAUGURATED—PHEASANTS, PIGEONS, BEES AND FISH—WOLVES—PREMIUMS ON WOLF AND FOX SCALPS—BEARS—PANTHERS—FUR-BEARING ANIMALS—THE RATTLESNAKE AND OTHER PESTS OF EARLY TIMES.

ERE the woodman's ax resounded, sombre and silent was the ancient forest which, during untold centuries, had overshadowed the hills and valleys of this region. Beauty and variety marked the plants which grew and bloomed beneath the leafy canopy of the gigantic trees;

> "Full many a flower was born to blush unseen,
> And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

Hill, dale and streamlet, with all the families of plants, from the lofty pine to the creeping ivy, gave to the landscape variety and picturesque beauty. An unchanged progression of periodical decay, had, from time immemorial, been forming a rich vegetable soil, in preparation for the era when civilized man should take possession and become its cultivator. Oak of several varieties, chestnut and hickory in all its species, were the principal growth on the dry gravelly lands; red and white beech, maple or sugar tree, linden or bass wood, sumach, white-ash, cucumber, poplar, white, red and slippery elm, walnut, ironwood, dogwood, sassafras and cherry, on the rich, loamy soil; and on the wet land bordering the streams, hemlock, black-ash, sycamore, soft maple and birch; extensive groves of white pine skirted many of the water-courses, affording ample provision for the building wants of several generations; while a varying undergrowth of fruit-bearing trees and vines such as the plum, crab-apple, white, red and black haw, alder, whortleberry, blackberry, raspberry, serviceberry, gooseberry, currant, cranberry and strawberry, also nuts of several varieties; hops, ginseng, bloodroot, chocolate root, together with innumerable kinds of other roots and herbage of valuable properties were the spontaneous growth of Crawford County.

But the pioneers came not to enjoy a life of lotus-eating and ease. They could admire the pristine beauty of the scenes that unveiled before them; they could enjoy the vernal green of the great forest, and the loveliness of all the works of nature. They could look forward with happy anticipation to the life they were to lead in the midst of all this beauty, and to the rich reward that would be theirs from the cultivation of the mellow, fertile soil; but they had first to work.

The dangers, also, that these pioneers were exposed to, were serious ones. The Indians could not be trusted, and the many stories of their outrages in

the earlier Eastern settlements made the pioneers of French Creek country apprehensive of trouble. The larger wild beasts were a cause of much dread, and the smaller ones a source of great annoyance. Added to this was the liability of sickness which always exists in a new country. In the midst of all the loveliness of the surroundings, there was a sense of loneliness that could not be dispelled, and this was a far greater trial to the men and women who first dwelt in the Western country than is generally imagined. The deep-seated, constantly-recurring feeling of isolation made many stout hearts turn back to the older settlements and the abodes of comfort, the companionship and sociability they had abandoned in their early homes, to take up a new life in the wilderness.

The pioneers making the tedious journey from the East and South by the rude trails, arrived at the places of their destination with but very little with which to begin the battle of life. They had brave hearts and strong arms, however, and they were possessed of invincible determination. Frequently they came on without their families to make a beginning, and this having been accomplished, would return to their old homes for their wives and children. The first thing done, after a temporary shelter from the rain had been provided, was to prepare a little spot of ground for some crop, usually corn. This was done by girding the trees, clearing away the underbrush, if there chanced to be any, and sweeping the surface with fire. Five, ten or even fifteen acres of land might thus be prepared and planted the first season. In the autumn the crop would be carefully gathered and garnered with the least possible waste, for it was the food supply of the pioneer and his family, and life itself depended, in part, upon its safe preservation. While the first crop was growing the pioneer had busied himself with the building of his cabin, which must answer as a shelter from the storms of the coming winter, a protection from the ravages of wild animals, and, possibly, a place of refuge from the red man.

If a pioneer was completely isolated from his fellow-men, his position was certainly a hard one; for without assistance he could construct only a poor habitation. In such cases the cabin was generally made of light logs or poles, and was laid up roughly, only to answer the temporary purpose of shelter, until other settlers had come into the vicinity, by whose help a more solid structure could be built. Usually a number of men came into the country together, and located within such distance of each other as enabled them to perform many friendly and neighborly offices. Assistance was always readily given one pioneer by all the scattered residents of the forest within a radius of several miles. The commonly followed plan of erecting a log cabin was through a union of labor. The site of the cabin home was generally selected with reference to a good water supply, often by a never-failing spring of pure water, or if such could not be found, it was not uncommon to first dig a well. When the cabin was to be built the few neighbors gathered at the site, and first cut down, within as close proximity as possible, a number of trees as nearly of a size as could be found, but ranging from a foot to twenty inches in diameter. Logs were chopped from these and rolled to a common center. This work, and that of preparing the foundation, would consume the greater part of the day, in most cases, and the entire labor would most commonly occupy two or three days—sometimes four. The logs were raised to their places with handspikes and "skid poles," and men standing at the corners with axes notched them as fast as they were laid in position. Soon the cabin would be built several logs high, and the work would become more difficult. The gables were formed by beveling the logs, and making them shorter and shorter, as each additional one

was laid in place. These logs in the gables were held in place by poles, which extended across the cabin from end to end, and which served also as rafters upon which to lay the rived "clapboard" roof. The so-called "clapboards" were five or six feet in length, and were split from oak or ash logs, and made as smooth and flat as possible. They were laid side by side, and other pieces of split stuff laid over the cracks so as to effectually keep out the rain. Upon these logs were laid to hold them in place, and the logs were held by blocks of wood placed between them.

The chimney was an important part of the structure, and taxed the builders, with their poor tools, to their utmost. In rare cases it was made of stone, but most commonly of logs and sticks laid up in a manner similar to those which formed the cabin. It was, in nearly all cases, built outside of the cabin, and at its base a huge opening was cut through the wall to answer as a fire-place. The sticks in the chimney were held in place, and protected from fire, by mortar, formed by kneading and working clay and straw. Flat stones were procured for back and jambs of the fire-place.

An opening was chopped or sawed in the logs on one side of the cabin for a doorway. Pieces of hewed timber, three or four inches thick, were fastened on each side by wooden pins to the end of the logs, and the door (if there was any) was fastened to one of these by wooden hinges. The door itself was a clumsy piece of wood-work. It was made of boards rived from an oak log, and held together by heavy cross-pieces. There was a wooden latch upon the inside, raised by a string which passed through a gimlet-hole, and hung upon the outside. From this mode of construction arose the old and well-known hospitable saying: "You will find the latch-string always out." It was only pulled in at night, and the door was thus fastened. Very many of the cabins of the pioneers had no doors of the kind here described, and the entrance was only protected by a blanket or skin of some wild beast suspended above it.

The window was a small opening, often devoid of anything resembling a sash, and very seldom having glass. Greased paper was sometimes used in lieu of the latter, but more commonly some old garment constituted a curtain, which was the only protection from sun, rain or snow.

The floor of the cabin was made of puncheons—pieces of timber split from trees about eighteen inches in diameter, and hewed smooth with the broad-ax. They were half the length of the floor. Many of the cabins first erected in this part of the country had nothing but the earthen floor. Sometimes the cabins had cellars, which were simply small excavations in the ground for the storage of a few articles of food, or perhaps cooking utensils. Access to the cellar was readily gained by lifting a loose puncheon. There was sometimes a loft used for various purposes, among others as the "guest chamber" of the house. It was reached by a ladder, the sides of which were split pieces of a sapling, put together like everything else in the house without nails.

The furniture of the log cabin was as simple and primitive as the structure itself. A forked stick set in the floor and supporting two poles, the other ends of which were allowed to rest upon the logs at the end and side of the cabin formed a bedstead. A common form of table was a slit slab supported by four rustic legs set in augur holes. Three-legged stools were made in a similar simple manner. Pegs driven in augur holes into the logs of the wall supported shelves, and others displayed the limited wardrobe of the family not in use. A few other pegs, or perhaps a pair of deer horns formed a rack where hung the rifle and powder-horn, which no cabin was without. These, and perhaps a few other simple articles brought from the "old home" formed the furniture and furnishings of the pioneer cabin.

The utensils for cooking and the dishes for table use were few. The best were of pewter, which the careful housewife of the olden time kept shining as brightly as the most pretentious plate of our later-day fine houses. It was by no means uncommon that wooden vessels, either coopered or turned, were used upon the table. Knives and forks were few, crockery very scarce, and tinware not abundant. Food was simply cooked and served, but it was of the best and most wholesome kind. The hunter kept the larder supplied with venison, bear meat, squirrels, fish, wild turkeys and the many varieties of smaller game. Plain corn bread baked in a kettle, in the ashes, or upon a board in front of the great open fire-place answered the purpose of all kinds of pastry. The corn was among the earlier pioneers pounded or grated, there being no mills for grinding it for some time, and then only small ones at a considerable distance away. The wild fruits in their season were made use of, and afforded a pleasant variety. Sometimes especial effort was made to prepare a delicacy as, for instance, when a woman experimented in mince pies by pounding wheat for the flour to make the crust, and used crab-apples for fruit. In the lofts of the cabins was usually to be found a collection of articles that made up the pioneer's *materia medica*—the herb medicines and spices, catnip, sage, tansy, fennel, boneset, pennyroyal and wormwood, each gathered in its season; and there were also stores of nuts, and strings of dried pumpkin, with bags of berries and fruit.

The habits of the pioneers were of a simplicity and purity in conformance to their surroundings and belongings. The men were engaged in the herculean labor, day after day, of enlarging the little patch of sunshine about their homes, cutting away the forest, burning off the brush and debris, preparing the soil, planting, tending, harvesting, caring for the few animals which they brought with them or soon procured, and in hunting. While they were engaged in the heavy labor of the field and forest, or following the deer, or seeking other game, their helpmeets were busied with their household duties, providing for the day and for the winter coming on, cooking, making clothes, spinning and weaving. They were fitted by nature and experience to be the consorts of the brave men who first came into the Western wilderness. They were heroic in their endurance of hardship and privation and loneliness. Their industry was well directed and unceasing. Woman's work then, like man's, was performed under disadvantages, which have been removed in later years. She had not only the common household duties to perform, but many others. She not only made the clothing but the fabric for it. That old, old occupation of spinning and of weaving, with which woman's name has been associated in all history, and of which the modern world knows nothing, except through the stories of those who are grandmothers now—that old occupation of spinning and of weaving which seems surrounded with a glamour of romance as we look back to it through tradition and poetry, and which always conjures up thoughts of the graces and virtues of the dames and damsels of a generation that is gone—that old, old occupation of spinning and of weaving, was the chief industry of the pioneer women. Every cabin sounded with the softly-whirring wheel and the rythmic thud of the loom. The woman of pioneer times was like the woman described by Solomon: "She seeketh wool and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands; she layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff."

Almost every article of clothing, all of the cloth in use in the old log cabins, was the product of the patient woman-weaver's toil. She spun the flax and wove the cloth for shirts, pantaloons, frocks, sheets and blankets. The linen and the wool, the "linsey-woolsey" woven by the housewife formed all

of the material for the clothing of both men and women, except such articles as were made of skins. The men commonly wore the hunting-shirt, a kind of loose frock reaching half way down the figure, open before, and so wide as to lap over a foot or more upon the chest. This generally had a cape, which was often fringed with a raveled piece of cloth of a different color from that which composed the garment. The bosom of the hunting-shirt answered as a pouch, in which could be carried the various articles that the hunter or woodsman would need. It was always worn belted and made out of coarse linen, or linsey, or of dressed deer skin, according to the fancy of the wearer. Breeches were made of heavy cloth or of deer skin, and were often worn with leggings of the same material, or of some kind of leather, while the feet were most usually encased in moccasins, which were easily and quickly made, though they needed frequent mending. The deer-skin breeches or drawers were very comfortable when dry, but when they became wet were very cold to the limbs, and the next time they were put on were almost as stiff as if made of wood. Hats or caps were made of the various native furs. The women were clothed in linsey petticoats, coarse shoes and stockings, and wore buckskin gloves or mittens when any protection was required for the hands. All of the wearing apparel, like that of the men, was made with a view to being serviceable and comfortable, and all was of home manufacture. Other articles and finer ones were sometimes worn, but they had been brought from former homes, and were usually relics handed down from parents to children. Jewelry was not common, but occasionally some ornament was displayed. In the cabins of the more cultivated pioneers were usually a few books, and the long winter evenings were spent in poring over these well-thumbed volumes by the light of the great log-fire, in knitting, mending, curing furs or some similar occupation.

Hospitality was simple, unaffected, hearty, unbounded. Whisky was in common use, and was furnished on all occasions of sociality. Nearly every settler had his barrel stored away. It was the universal drink at merry makings, bees, house-warmings, weddings, and was always set before the traveler who chanced to spend the night or take a meal in the log cabin. It was the good old-fashioned whisky, "clear as amber, sweet as musk, smooth as oil"—that the few octogenarians and nonagenarians of to-day recall to memory with an unctuous gusto and a suggestive smack of the lips. The whisky came from the Monongahela district, and was boated up the Allegheny and French Creek, or hauled in wagons across the country. A few years later stills began to make their appearance, and an article of peach brandy and rye whisky manufactured; the latter was not held in such high esteem as the peach brandy, though used in greater quantities.

As the settlement increased, the sense of loneliness and isolation was dispelled, the asperities of life were softened and its amenities multiplied; social gatherings became more numerous and more enjoyable. The log-rollings, harvestings and husking-bees for the men; and the apple-butter making and the quilting parties for the women, furnished frequent occasions for social intercourse. The early settlers took much pleasure and pride in rifle-shooting, and as they were accustomed to the use of the gun as a means, often, of obtaining a subsistence, and relied upon it as a weapon of defense, they exhibited considerable skill.

A wedding was the event of most importance in the sparsely settled new country. The young people had every inducement to marry, and generally did so as soon as able to provide for themselves. When a marriage was to be celebrated, all the neighborhood turned out. It was customary to have the

ceremony performed before dinner, and in order to be in time, the groom and his attendants usually started from his father's house in the morning for that of the bride. All went on horseback, riding in single file along the narrow trail. Arriving at the cabin of the bride's parents, the ceremony would be performed, and after that, dinner served. This would be a substantial backwoods feast, of beef, pork, fowls and bear or deer meat, with such vegetables as could be procured. The greatest hilarity prevailed during the meal. After it was over, the dancing began, and was usually kept up till the next morning, though the newly-made husband and wife were as a general thing put to bed in the most approved fashion, and with considerable formality, in the middle of the evening's hilarity. The tall young men, when they went on the floor to dance, had to take their places with care between the logs that supported the loft floor, or they were in danger of bumping their heads. The figures of the dances were three and four hand reels, or square sets and jigs. The commencement was always a square four, which was followed by "jigging it off," or what is sometimes a "cut out jig." The "settlement" of a young couple was thought to be thoroughly and generously made when the neighbors assembled and raised a cabin for them.

During all the early years of the settlement, varied with occasional pleasures and excitements the great work of increasing the tillable ground went slowly on. The implements and tools were few and of the most primitive kinds, but the soil that had long held in reserve the accumulated richness of centuries, produced splendid harvests, and the husbandman was well rewarded for his labor. The soil was warmer then than now, and the season earlier. The wheat was occasionally pastured in the spring to keep it from growing up so early, and so fast as to become lodged. The harvest came early, and the yield was often from twenty to thirty bushels per acre. Corn grew fast, and roasting ears were to be had by the 1st of August in most seasons.

When the corn grew too hard for roasting-ears and was yet too soft to grind in the mill, it was reduced to meal by a grater. Next to the grater came the hominy block, an article in common use among the pioneers. It consisted simply of a block of wood—a section of a tree, perhaps—with a hole burned or dug into it a foot deep in which corn was pulverized with a pestle. Sometimes this block was inside the cabin, where it served as a seat for the bashful young backwoodsman while "sparking" his girl; sometimes a convenient stump in front of the cabin door was prepared for and made one of the best of hominy blocks. These blocks did not last long, for mills came quite early and superseded them, yet these mills were often so far apart that in stormy weather, or for want of transportation, the pioneer was compelled to resort to his hominy-block or go without bread. In winter, the mills were frozen up nearly all the time and when a thaw came and the ice broke, if the mill was not swept away entirely by the floods, it was so thronged with pioneers, each with his sack of corn, that some of them were often compelled to camp out near the mill and wait several days for their turn. When the grist was ground, if they were so fortunate as to possess an ox, a horse or mule for the purpose of transportation, they were happy. It was not unusual to go ten or twenty miles to mill, through the pathless, unbroken forest, and to be benighted on the journey and chased by wolves.

As a majority of the pioneers settled in the vicinity of some stream, mills soon made their appearance in every settlement. These mills, however, were very primitive affairs—mere "corn-crackers"—but they were a big improvement on the hominy-block. They merely ground the corn; the pioneer must do his own bolting. The meal was sifted through a wire sieve by hand, and

the finest used for bread. A road cut through the forest to the mill and a wagon for hauling the grist were great advantages. The latter, especially, was often a seven days' wonder to the children of a settlement, and the happy owner of one often did for years the milling of a whole neighborhood. About once a month, this good neighbor, who was in exceptionally good circumstances because able to own a wagon, would go around through the settlement, gather up the grists and take them to mill, often spending several days in the operation, and never think of charging for his time and trouble.

Only the commonest goods were brought into the country, and they sold at very high prices, as the freightage of merchandise from Philadelphia to Meadville, as late as 1811, was from $6 to $9 per hundred pounds. Most of the people were in moderate circumstances, and were content to live in a very cheap way. A majority had to depend mainly on the produce of their little clearings, which consisted to a large extent of potatoes and corn. Mush, corn bread and potatoes were the principal food. There was no meat except game, and often this had to be eaten without salt. Pork, flour, sugar and other groceries sold at high prices, and were looked upon as luxuries. In 1798–99, wheat brought $1.50 per bushel; flour, $4, per 100 lbs.; corn, $1 per bushel; oats, 75 cents; and potatoes, 65 cents. Prices were still higher in 1813–14, corn being $2 per bushel, oats, $1, and salt from $5 to $12 per barrel.

In an old cash-book kept at Fort Franklin from 1792 to 1798, William Reynolds, Esq., found the names of many of the first settlers of Crawford County, such as David Mead, John Mead, Samuel Lord, John Wentworth, Luke Hill, Jonathan Titus, Samuel and Andrew Kerr, Joseph Hackney, Dr. Thomas R. Kennedy, William McGrady, William Eachus, James Herrington. Aaron Wright, Hamilton McClintock, Cornelius Van Horne and Capt. Richard Patch. The accounts with the whites are carried out in pounds, shillings and pence, while those with the Indians, who largely patronized this store, were kept in dollars and cents. To judge from the daily consumption of whisky, it was pre-eminently the "staff of life," there being scarce an account against a white or Indian, male or female, of which it does not form a large proportion. For domestic use, it cost three shillings per quart, while a gill cost 4 cents. Tobacco was sold *by the yard*, at 4 cents per yard; common sugar at 33 cents, and loaf at 50 cents per pound. Chocolate was in more general use than tea or coffee, and sold at three shillings and sixpence per pound, and coffee at 30 cents. Homespun linen could be purchased at 50 cents per yard, while the belle aspiring to the extravagance of calico, could gratify per ambition at 83 cents per yard, with the addition of a cotton handkerchief at from 70 cents to $1, according to color and design. Shoes and boots brought from $1 to $3 per pair, but moccasins were in common use with both white men and Indians at 3 shillings and ninepence, though from ninepence to two shillings higher when ornamented with the colored quills of the porcupine. The price of a rifle was $25, a horse, $125, and a yoke of oxen $80.

Indians usually paid their bills with peltry, and many of the whites did likewise. A bear skin was worth from $2 to $5; otter, from $3 to $4; beaver, from $2 to $3; deer, from 75 to 90 cents; martin, one shilling and ten pence; muskrat, one shilling, while fisher, wild cat and elk skins were also purchased. John Wentworth, of Crawford County, settles an account at this Fort Franklin store by delivering two wild cats, one bear, two cub, one martin and two otter skins. In an inventory made in 1797, three kegs of "Seneca Oil" (petroleum) are appraised at 50 cents each. This is doubtless one of the oldest quotations of the market price of this material. These books contain accounts with a large number of Indians then living in the Allegheny Valley,

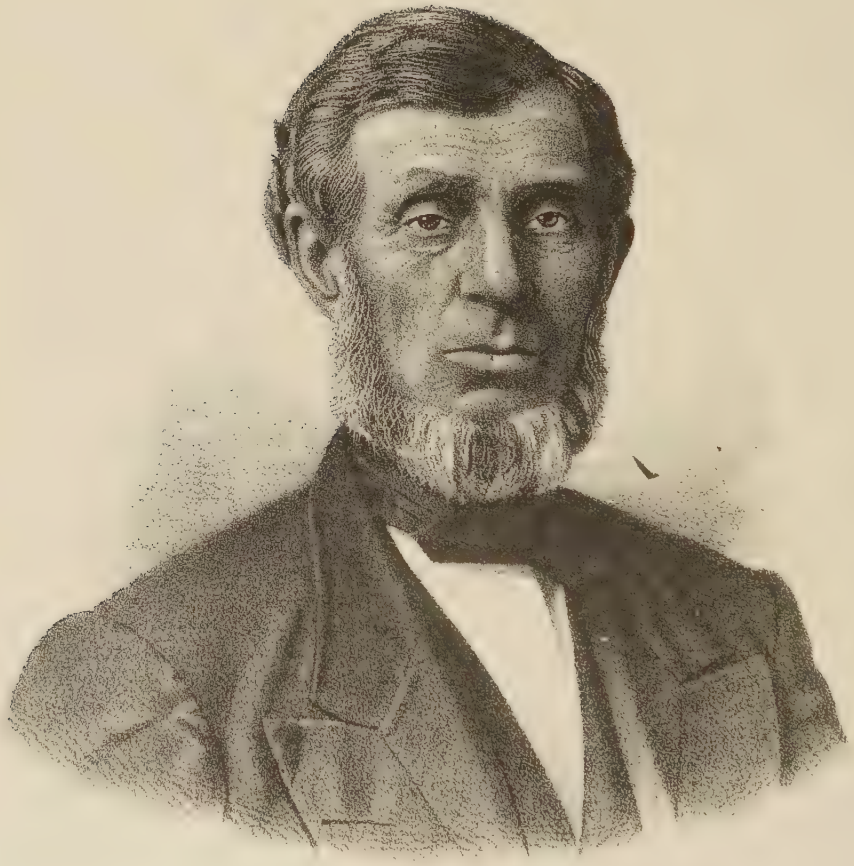
who appear to have had fair credit, among whom were Cornplanter, Halftown, Flying Cloud and Wire Ears, names closely identified with the early history of the French Creek Valley.

Long journeys upon foot were often made by the pioneers to obtain the necessities of life or some article, then a luxury, for the sick. Hardships were cheerfully borne, privations stoutly endured; the best was made of what they had by the pioneers and their families, and they toiled patiently on, industrious and frugal, simple in their tastes and pleasures, happy in an independence, however hardly gained, and looking forward hopefully to a future of plenty which should reward them for the toils of their earliest years, and a rest from the struggle amidst the benefits gained by it. Without an iron will and indomitable resolution they could never have accomplished what they did. Their heroism deserves the highest tribute of praise that can be awarded. A writer in one of the local papers says:

"Eighty years ago not a pound of coal or a cubic foot of illuminating gas had been burned in the country. All the cooking and warming in town as well as in the country were done by the aid of a fire kindled on the brick hearth or in the brick ovens. Pine knots or tallow candles furnished the light for the long winter nights, and sanded floors supplied the place of rugs and carpets. The water used for household purposes was drawn from deep wells by the creaking sweep. No form of pump was used in this country, so far as we can learn, until after the commencement of the present century. There were no friction matches in those early days, by the aid of which a fire could be easily kindled, and if the fire went out upon the hearth over night, and the tinder was damp, so that the spark would not catch, the alternative remained of wading through the snow a mile or so to borrow a brand from a neighbor. Only one room in any house was warm, unless some member of the family was ill; in all the rest the temperature was at zero during many nights in winter. The men and women undressed and went to their beds in a temperature colder than our barns and woodsheds, and they never complained."

Churches and schoolhouses were sparsely scattered, and of the most primitive character. One pastor served a number of congregations, and salaries were so low that the preachers had to take part in working their farms to procure support for their families. The people went to religious service on foot or horseback, and the children often walked two or three miles through the woods to school. There were no fires in the churches for a number of years. When they were finally introduced they were at first built in holes cut in the floors, and the smoke found its way out through openings in the roofs. The seats were of unsmoothed slabs, the ends and centers of which were laid upon blocks, and the pulpits were little better. Worship was held once or twice a month, consisting usually of two services, one in the forenoon and one immediately after noon, the people remaining during the interval and spending the time in social intercourse. It is much to be feared that if religious worship were attended with the same discomforts now as it was eighty to ninety years ago, the excuses for keeping away from the house of God would be many times multiplied. Taken altogether, while they had to endure many privations and hardships, it is doubtful whether the pioneers of any part of America were more fortunate in their selection than those of Crawford County. Every one of the settlers agree in saying that they had no trouble in accommodating themselves to the situation, and were, as a rule, both men and women, healthy, contented and happy.

During the war of 1812-15, many of the husbands and fathers volunteered their services to the United States, and others were drafted. Women and



A B Ross

children were then left alone in many an isolated log-cabin all through north western Pennsylvania, and there was a long reign of unrest and anxiety. It was feared by many that the Indians might take advantage of the desertion of these homes by their natural defenders, and pillage and destroy them. The dread of robbery and murder filled many a mother's heart, but happily the worst fears of the kind proved to be groundless, and this part of the country was spared any scenes of actual violence.

After the war there was a greater feeling of security than ever before; a new motive was given to immigration. The country rapidly filled up with settlers, and the era of peace and prosperity was fairly begun. Progress was slowly, surely made; the log-houses became more numerous in the clearings; the forest shrank away before the woodman's ax; frame houses began to appear. The pioneers, assured of safety, laid better plans for the future, resorted to new industries, enlarged their possessions, and improved the means of cultivation. Stock was brought in from the South and East. Every settler had his horses, oxen, cattle, sheep and hogs. More commodious structures took the places of the old ones; the large double log-cabin of hewed logs and the still handsomer frame dwelling took the place of the smaller hut; log and frame barns were built for the protection of stock and the housing of the crops. Then society began to form itself; the schoolhouse and the church appeared, and the advancement was noticeable in a score of ways. Still there remained a vast work to perform, for as yet only a beginning had been made in the western woods. The brunt of the struggle, however, was past, and the way made in the wilderness for the army that was to come.

"The wild animals," says Alfred Huidekoper in his sketch of Crawford County written in 1846, "that have been seen in this county since its settlement, are the elk, deer, panther, wolf, bear, wild-cat, fox, martin, otter, polecat, beaver, groundhog or woodchuck, opossum, raccoon, hare, rabbit, black, grey, red or pine, flying and ground or striped squirrels, muskrat, mink, weasel, porcupine, field-mouse, deer-mouse, common rat and mouse." Of these the elk, panther, wolf, bear, wild-cat and beaver, are extinct in this county, or if any are ever seen it is a very rare occurrence.

"Among the birds," says the same writer, "which visit this county annually, either to build or touching it in their migration to a more northern region, are the bald and gray eagle, rarely if ever seen; the hen hawk, fish hawk, pigeon hawk, shrike or butcher bird, the white, the cat and screech owl; the swan, wild goose, black duck, mallard, wood duck, shelldrake, teal, butterbolt, loon, dipper, water hen or coot, plover, jack snipe, sand-snipe, kingfisher, turkey, pheasant, partridge or quail, woodcock, rail, pigeon, dove, whip-poor-will, robin, thrush, catbird, cuckoo, lark, oriole, bluejay, fieldfare or red-breasted grosbeak, martin, the barn swallow, bank swallow, oven swallow, bluebird, wren, cowbird, bobolink or reedbird, yellow bird, redbird, blackbird, redwing, starling, black or large woodpecker, red-headed woodpecker, gray woodpecker, flicker, cedar bird or toppy, crookbill, green bird, humming bird, and a variety of small birds with whose species I am not familiar." Since Mr. Huidekoper's sketch was written some of these members of the feathery kingdom have become very rare, or altogether extinct, while others have come into the county. The white-breasted swallow is one of the later inhabitants, as is also the hardy, pugnacious English sparrow, which, since their coming, has driven many of the most beautiful songsters from the towns that are inhabited by these little fellows in great numbers.

"The snakes that are found in Crawford County," according to Mr.

Huidekoper, "are the black and the yellow rattlesnake, the former of which is most frequently found in swampy or wet lands, and the latter upon hilly or dry ground; the water snake, a large black snake, growing from five to seven feet in length; the small black snake or white-ringed viper; the brown or house snake; the garter snake and green snake. All these species are innocuous, except the rattlesnake, and it is fortunately now almost extinct."

In connection with the subject of wild animals, birds and reptiles, it will not be out of place to give the following item from the Crawford *Weekly Messenger* of June 15, 1827. Under the heading of "An Old Settler," the editor says: "A land tortoise was brought to my office this week by Mr. E. F. Randolph, found on his farm, with the letters 'F. H.' cut on the lower shell by Frederick Haymaker, formerly of this place, in 1794, being thirty-three years ago. It was found on the same farm about twenty, and again about fourteen years since. The letters 'T. A. (Thomas Atkinson), 1827,' have been added to it. Let the future finder treat it with kindness. It is the only one, so far as I can learn, that has been discovered in this section of the county." Hon. William Reynolds and Thomas R. Kennedy who prepared the "olden time" articles for the *Republican*, says: "This tortoise was found several times subsequent to the last mentioned date, and *was* treated with kindness, as Mr. Atkinson requested. About the year 1855 it was discovered by some young men while hunting, who placed it upon a stump as a target to shoot at, and killed it."

The thick undergrowth gave an excellent covert to the wild animals which abounded during the pioneer days of this county; deer being the most valuable game that filled these forests. The rich herbage, especially the pea-vine, with its delicate tendrils and tiny pods, the wild bean in the summer, and the acorn, beachnut and chestnut in autumn, covered them with delicious fat. Venison was then very much superior to what it became after the cattle and swine of the first settlers destroyed these nutritious plants, and reduced the wooded pasture to a barren waste. Elk were rarely seen west of the Allegheny River.* Turkeys abounded, and in the spring time the woods resounded with their cry. In autumn they became very fat, and gobblers were frequently killed weighing over twenty pounds. Black squirrels were so numerous as to be regarded as nuisances; but the gray squirrel was not seen until some years after the country began to be settled. In November, 1810, a petition was prepared and presented at the following session of the Legislature, asking for relief against the squirrel infesting northwestern Pennsylvania. This petition reads as follows:

"The petition of the subscribers, inhabitants of the counties of Mercer, Crawford, Venango and Erie, most respectfully sheweth: That the great injury which we annually sustain in our crops from squirrels, has induced us to apply to your honorable bodies to have some appropriate means adopted for the destruction of these destructive animals. It is not without much concern that your petitioners behold so large a portion of the fruits of their labor continually devoured by them; while every exertion that can possibly be made by a few individuals can yield only a very partial relief, even to those individuals themselves. It is certain that if all the inhabitants of the country were to do their part toward the extirpation of these vermin, they might soon be destroyed; but it is a truth very evident that unless this essential duty be sanctioned by law, it never will be performed, and consequently immense quantities of grain must continue to be lost to the country, which in its present infantile state, is a most serious evil. Your petitioners therefore do most earnestly pray, that your honorable bodies will vouchsafe to direct by a law, such measures as shall be deemed most proper for carrying into effect the object of this petition."

From this time forward a relentless warfare was waged against the squirrel creation. Large hunting parties were frequently organized, that slaugh-

*A French memoir, written in 1714, says: "Buffalo are found on the south shore of Lake Erie, but not on the north shore."

tered these little animals without mercy. At one of these hunts, which took place in Randolph Township, in July, 1830, 891 squirrels were killed in one day, and the scalps preserved for the premium then offered under a legislative act. It was a pioneer custom to organize "shooting bees," two sets of sportsmen hunting against each other on a wager. On the 1st of September, 1834, two parties of marksmen, of opposite political sentiments, Democrats and Whigs, or Jackson and anti-Jackson men, each side composed of eight sportsmen, left Meadville on a squirrel hunt, the parties to meet with their game at Flurey's tavern, in Meadville, at 9 o'clock the same evening. Upon counting the result of the hunt, the Jacksonites had 271, while the Whigs had 382, thus winning the wager of a supper prepared at Flurey's for the occasion.

Pheasants enlivened the forest with their peculiar drumming, while the partridge, or quail, was not seen or heard of until fields of grain were here to give them sustenance. Pigeons, in the spring and fall, covered the country, their favorite roosting places being the Conneaut and Pymatuning marshes. In the evening the sound of their wings in rapid flight resembled distant thunder as they came fluttering and covering the trees and bushes, many of which would give way with their weight. In the morning they took their flight in like manner, spreading over the land till neither beech-nut nor acorn remained.

The bee-trees were also plentiful in pioneer times, and one instance is mentioned in the *Messenger*, in 1832, where sixteen gallons of excellent honey were obtained from one tree in this county.

Most of the small streams abounded in trout. The rivulets emptying into French Creek were particularly famous for this favorite fish, and the stories told of their size and readiness to leap into the sportsman's hands, are enough to drive an angler wild with enthusiasm.

Of noxious animals not a few were dwelling in the forest that covered this region; but the wolf was most numerous. His lugubrious howl, and the peculiar cry of the pack, ushered in the the evening shades, and during the night serenaded the lonely settler or benighted traveler, increasing the solitariness of the wilderness. These pests had few sheep to prey upon, but pigs and calves oftimes went to satisfy their voracious appetites. The Commonwealth had enacted laws prior to the erection of Crawford County, providing for the payment of a premium by each county on the scalps of wolves and other wild animals. In the act of 1806 this premium was fixed at $8 for a full grown wolf, and $3 for a puppy wolf; and in the session of 1819, the premium was raised to $12 and $5 respectively. Under the several acts Crawford County, during the early years of her history, paid out the following sums as premiums for wolf scalps: 1804, $220.50; 1805, $301.33; 1806, $198.66; 1807, $182; 1808, $265; 1809, $119; 1810 (wolf and fox), $316.46; 1811 (wolf and fox), $221.81; 1812 (wolf and fox), $129.09; 1813 (wolf and fox), $271.20; 1814, $192; 1816, $144; 1818, $172; 1819, $160; 1822, $386.65; 1823, $217.59; 1824, $241.96; 1825, $169.71; 1826, $218.07; 1827, $227.85; 1828, $186.70; 1829, $265.22; 1830, $275.18; 1831, $254.81; 1832, $398.28; 1833, $141.34; 1834, $200.44.

Bears were numerous and troublesome. Hogs of large size were frequently destroyed by them, and on some occasions it was not desirable to meet bruin in the woods. A she bear with her cubs was especially dangerous, when her young manifested fear by crying. The flesh of a fat bear was prized by the early settlers. They sometimes weighed from 400 to 500 pounds, and yielded a large quantity of oil, which in those days was valued in the culinary department of the housewife. As late as September, 1834, a bear was shot by H.

C. Bosler on the farm of Cornelius Van Horne, and the same evening another was seen up French Creek, within sight of Meadville, quietly resting on the tow-path of the canal. Crossing the creek, bruin regaled his appetite in a field of corn on the flats, and then disappeared in the woods. About the same period William Shattuck, of Meadville, discovered a large cinnamon bear on the Randolph farm below town. He hurriedly returned, borrowed a horse and gun of Alfred Huidekoper, and in due time came back with the bear slung across his horse. These were about the last seen in the vicinity of Meadville.

Panthers were scarce, and not often seen and seldom heard. In 1819 the Legislature fixed the premium on a full-grown panther's scalp at $12, and $5 on a cub's. The lynx or wild cat, was sometimes bold and threatening, being a ferocious and dangerous animal in close quarters.

Of the fur-bearing animals, the beaver was most valuable. They inhabited the Conneaut and Pymatuning marshes, and were also found along the smaller streams, wherever the conveniences of site and timber for the formation of their dams were found. But the wolf, bear, panther, wild cat and beaver have long since disappeared from the forests of this county. Otter and mink were numerous, but of late years have become very scarce; while the fox and raccoon still inhabit this portion of the State.

The most dreaded, because the most dangerous nuisance during the first years of settlement, was the rattlesnake, always numerous in the creek valleys and the adjoining high lands. Many were of large size, having attained their maximum growth, as the Indians seldom if ever killed them. Hairbreadth escapes almost every one of the first settlers could with truth narrate; yet few persons were bitten by these reptiles, and fewer still died from the poisonous effects. The rattlesnake would often creep into the cabins of the pioneers and hide away in some comfortable nook. When the Holland Land Company was erecting its mill on Oil Creek, the blacksmith employed in doing the iron work made his lodging in the shop, which was open and cool. One morning on awaking he discovered a large rattlesnake quietly coiled within a few inches of his face. He remembered being partially awake some time before, and by moonlight saw what he supposed to be his black silk neckerchief; so he slept on till daylight revealed the proximity of his dangerous companion. It is needless to say that his shop was no longer his lodging place.

The gnat was the most troublesome pest to the first settlers; so small as to be almost invisible, yet so tormenting by its sting as to render it nearly impossible during morning and evening hours, or cloudy days, in the summer season, to do any such work as hoeing, weeding, milking, etc.; without suffering great annoyance. In vain were the attempts to sleep, unless close to the entrance of the cabin the customary protection of a smoldering fire of chips was provided ere retiring. The wood-tick was another of these insect nuisances with which the pioneers had to contend. Although these insects were troublesome to horses and cattle, their chief plague was the large horsefly, which drove them in from the woods every clear day about eight or nine o'clock in the morning, and either smoke or stable were necessary to protect them until evening. Exposed horses died under the infliction, through pain and loss of blood. Fires were made of rotten wood and chips, and the cattle would run in as the morning advanced, and hold their heads and necks in the smoke with self-protecting instinct. But as the forest was cut down and clearings became larger, these insect pests disappeared. Few of the living generation remember those early years, and therefore cannot fully comprehend what was endured physically and mentally by the pioneer families, who braved all and were sustained by the hope of better things for their children.

CHAPTER XI.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS—EARLY ROADS AND NAVIGATION—SALT TRADE—DISCOVERY AND MANUFACTURE OF SALT IN CRAWFORD COUNTY—FREIGHTAGE OF SALT BETWEEN ERIE AND PITTSBURGH—TURNPIKE ROADS—STATE APPROPRIATIONS FOR NAVIGATION AND ROADS—OLD STATE ROAD—COUNTY EXPENDITURES FOR ROADS AND BRIDGES FROM 1804 TO 1834—MODE OF TRAVEL IN PIONEER DAYS—PLANK ROADS—FIRST BRIDGES BUILT ACROSS FRENCH CREEK—STAGE LINES AND MAIL ROUTES—BOATING AND NAVIGATION ON FRENCH CREEK—CANALS AND CANAL BUILDING—FRENCH CREEK FEEDER AND THE BEAVER & ERIE CANAL—INTRODUCTION OF STEAMBOATS OF THE ALLEGHENY AND SLACK-WATER NAVIGATION ON FRENCH CREEK—COMPLETION OF THE BEAVER & ERIE CANAL—RAILROADS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

WITH the erection of CrawfordCounty, northwestern Pennsylvania had no internal improvements other than the most primitive wood-cut roads through the forests. Our readers who have familiarized themselves with Chapter III, will remember that the French cut a road from Presque Isle to Fort Le Bœuf, in 1753, and soon afterward from the latter point to Fort Machault, at the mouth of French Creek, both of which were kept up as long as they maintained posts in western Pennsylvania. These then were the first and for nearly fifty years the only roads west of the Allegheny River, and long after the first settlers came in were still easily traceable, though much grown up with small trees. The steamboat and locomotive were yet unknown, while turnpike roads were opened only in the vicinity of the seaboard. Freight was carried by wagon from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, and thence to Meadville by canoe and batteaux.

One of the leading industries of the early days was the transportation of salt for the Southern markets, which was commenced by Gen. James O'Hara, of Allegheny County, about 1800, and continued until 1819, being at its height from 1805 to 1812. The salt was purchased at Salina, N. Y., hauled from there to Buffalo in wagons, brought in vessels to Erie, and from there carried by ox teams over the old French road to Waterford, where it was loaded on flat-boats and floated down French Creek and the Allegheny to Pittsburgh, supplying Meadville and the several towns on the route. The growth of the trade as shown by the Custom House records at Erie, was from 714 barrels in 1800, to 12,000 in 1809, which amount was increased at a later period.

From the *Crawford Weekly Messenger* of December 12, 1805, we gather the following item concerning the salt trade: "Eleven flat-bottomed and six keel-boats passed by this place (Meadville) during the last freshet in French Creek—the former carrying on the average 170, and the latter 60 barrels of salt each, making in the whole 2,230 barrels. This computed at $11 per barrel at this place, amounts to $24,530. The selling price at Pittsburgh is now $13 per barrel, which will make it amount to $28,990. During the preceding summer, spring and winter, more than double the foregoing quantity has been brought across the carrying place between Erie and Waterford, which was either consumed in the country bordering on the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers, or in this and the neighboring counties, amounting in the whole to upward of $80,000."

In its issue of January 1, 1807, the *Messenger* says: "During the late rise in French Creek we had the pleasing sight of witnessing twenty-two Kentucky boats, or arks, pass by this place loaded with salt for Pittsburgh, carrying in the whole between 4,000 and 5,000 barrels." The same paper, in its issue of November 23, 1809, says: "There are at present at Waterford upward of 14,000 barrels of salt, containing five bushels each, or 70,000 bushels, waiting for the rise of the waters, in order to descend to Pittsburgh, Wheeling and Marietta."

In 1815 a salt well was sunk in Beaver Township, a short distance southwest of Beaver Center, by Samuel B. Magaw and William Clark of Meadville. Daniel Shryock subsequently becoming a partner in the works. The *Messenger* of July 20, 1815, thus comments on the discovery: "We congratulate the citizens of this and the neighboring counties on the prospect of being supplied with this important article from the works of Messrs. Magaw, Clark & Co., recently established at the west end of this county. Salt water has been found at the depth of 186 feet, and thirty kettles will be in operation in the course of about two weeks." Very little was accomplished, however, for some time in the way of manufacture, but in the *Messenger* of November 7, 1818, we find the following reference to these works: "The salt works of Messrs. Shryock & Co. are now in operation in the west end of this county. The production at present will average about ten bushels per day. The water appearing sufficient, it is intended to increase the number of boilers, when double the quantity can be made. The salt is of excellent quality." The shaft was finally sunk to the depth of 300 feet, with the hope of tapping a still richer vein, but instead of pure salt water being found, the fluid came forth mixed with petroleum, and therefore became useless for any purpose. An effort was still made to continue the works, but they did not pay and were abandoned in 1821.

The hauling of the salt over the portage between Erie and Waterford, and the floating of it down French Creek gave employment to many citizens of this part of the State. To some farmers the trade was really a Godsend, as their land barely furnished food for their families, and, there being no markets for the little they had to sell, they were obliged by necessity to spend a part of their time at some other employment to raise money for taxes, groceries and clothing. This was especially the case just before and immediately after the war of 1812–15, when the times were very hard. It is estimated that when the trade was at its best, 100 teams and as many persons were constantly on the road between Erie and Waterford. The time for making each trip was calculated at two days and the average load for a four-ox-team was fourteen barrels. The price paid at first was from $1.50 to $3 per barrel, which was finally reduced to $1, and at the close to 50 cents. Prior to the completion of the Erie & Waterford Turnpike, the road was always bad, and it was not unusual for a wagon load of freight to get stuck in the mud, and be four days in crossing the portage. On many occasions a part of the burden had to be abandoned on the way, and a second trip made to get it to its destination. A number of warehouses were erected on the bank of Le Bœuf Creek at Waterford for storing the salt until the water was at a suitable stage for floating it down French Creek. The salt was bought at Salina for 60 cents per bushel, and the price at Meadville ranged from $5 to $12 a barrel. It required from two to three months to convey it from the place of manufacture to Pittsburgh. There was a period when salt was one of the circulating mediums in this region of country. Oxen, horses, negro slaves and land were sold to be paid for in so much salt. As a sample, Hamlin Russell, father of N. W. Russell, of Belle Valley, Erie County, exchanged a yoke of oxen for eight barrels, and

Rufus S. Reed purchased of Gen. Kelso a colored boy, who was to be held to service under the State law until he was twenty eight years old, for 100 barrels. The price that season was $5 per barrel, making the value of the slave $500. The discovery of salt wells on the Kiskiminitas and Kanawha, about 1813, cheapened the price of the article at Pittsburgh, so that Salina could not compete, and the trade by way of Erie steadily diminished until it ceased altogether in 1819.

The expense and difficulty experienced in obtaining this indespensable article was the principal inducement which prompted the construction of the first internal improvement made in this section of Pennsylvania, the Erie & Waterford Turnpike. An act had been passed by the Legislature in 1791 to open a road from Presque Isle to French Creek; and the Susquehanna & Waterford Turnpike was located by Andrew Ellicott in 1796, from Fort Le Bœuf, through Meadville and Franklin, to Curwensville, in Clearfield County, with the object of giving a continuous road from Erie to Philadelphia, but nothing further was done toward their construction for several years. On the 13th of December, 1804, a circular, signed by John Wilkins, Jr., Henry Baldwin, and William Gazzam, was issued from Pittsburgh "To the Inhabitants of the Western Country," setting forth in glowing terms the great advantages of the contemplated turnpike from Waterford to Erie. The people were solicited to become stockholders in the road, and books were opened at the store of Col. Joseph Hackney, in Meadville, for that purpose. Such leading citizens of Crawford County as Gen. David Mead, Col. Joseph Hackney, Maj. Roger Alden, Dr. Thomas R. Kennedy, and Jabez Colt took an active interest in the success of the enterprise, the entire cost of which was calculated not to exceed $20,000, while it was thought it could be built for $1,200 per mile. It was argued that the freightage on salt from Erie to Waterford, which then cost from $2 to $3 per barrel, would be reduced to 50 cents, and the price of that necessary commodity correspondingly reduced, while a fine outlet would be obtained for the transportation into Upper Canada of "whiskey, bar iron, castings, etc., at a much lower cost." It was confidently claimed, that "by the completion of the proposed road, more than $10,000 will be annually saved to the people of the Western country." The circular closed thus: "Those who do not feel able to subscribe any number of shares, can associate themselves with their neighbors, and they will find that in a few years the reduced price of salt, which they consume, will be equal to the amount of their subscription."

The Erie & Waterford Turnpike Company was formed in 1805, with the avowed subject of building the first link in the great contemplated thoroughfare from Erie to Philadelphia, via the French Creek, Juniata and Susquehanna Valleys. The first election of officers was held at Waterford, and resulted in the choice of the following: President, Col. Thomas Forster; Treasurer, Judah Colt; Managers, Henry Baldwin, John Vincent, Ralph Marlin, James Herriott, John C. Wallace, William Miles, James Brotherton and Joseph Hackney. Work was commenced in 1806, and the road was completed in 1809. It was a herculean undertaking for the time. In laying out the road, a circuitous course was taken to accommodate the settlers, many of whom were stockholders in the company. Previous to its completion, the travel between Erie and Waterford was wholly over the old French road, which had been but slightly repaired and was in a horrible condition. The turnpike was a paying property until 1845, when it ceased to be remunerative to the stockholders. It was soon after abandoned by them and accepted as a township road.

During the session of 1811–12, the Legislature passed an act incorporating the Susquehanna & Waterford Turnpike Company. Four hundred and fifty shares were subscribed for in Crawford County, eighty in Erie, three hundred in Mercer, and three hundred in Venango. The Commissioners for Crawford County were James Herriott and Henry Hurst. The State agreed to appropriate $125,000 toward the enterprise on condition that 2,000 shares were taken within three years; but the war of 1812–15 so depressed all kinds of business in this locality, that the projectors were unable to dispose of the necessary number of shares until the charter and appropriation were in danger of forfeiture. On the 19th of August, 1815, a meeting of the citizens of Crawford County was called at Meadville to make another effort for the road. Maj. Roger Alden, John Reynolds, Patrick Farrelly, H. J. Huidekoper, T. T. Cummings, Samuel B. Magaw, Thomas Atkinson, Joseph Morrison, Samuel Torbett, Eliphalet Betts, James Foster, James Herriott, Henry Hurst, William Clark and John Brooks were appointed a Committee of Correspondence. All efforts up to this time had been unsuccessful; but in January, 1816, the required subscription of 2,000 shares was completed. While the committee was holding a conference one day in the house of William Dick (which yet stands on the northeast corner of Water Street and Cherry Alley), there was still lacking one more shareholder to comply with the terms of the charter. John G. Brown, a tailor possessing neither money nor credit, was seen passing by, when one of the committee exclaimed: "There is the man to subscribe the balance of the stock." Brown was called in, and readily complied with the request to lend his name as the nominal owner of 750 shares, and thus the charter was saved and the State appropriation secured. The company was not, however, ready for business until 1818, and in October of that year the survey of the road was completed. The following November the construction of the several sections were offered for sale, and by the fall of 1820 the road was finished from Waterford to Bellefonte. By 1824 it was completed to Philadelphia, thus making a continuous turnpike from the latter city to Erie, via Harrisburg, Bellefonte, Franklin, Meadville and Waterford. For many years it was a toll road, but finally proving unprofitable to the stockholders it was abandoned, the gates removed and the road turned over to the townships through which it passed.

The Mercer and Meadville Turnpike Company was incorporated by an act passed in 1817, to construct a road between the points named, connecting at Mercer with another pike running to Pittsburgh by way of Butler. John Reynolds and Thomas Atkinson were the Commissioners appointed for Crawford County, but it was not until November 7, 1818, that the locating of the road was finished, and the contracts let. In 1821 it was completed and opened for travel. This road gave a through line from Lake Erie to the Ohio River, but it, too, proved a poor investment, and was finally abandoned to the public as a free road.

In the meantime the State had assisted in the good work by granting in 1790, $400 for the improvement of French and Le Bœuf Creeks, and $3,000 in 1807 toward improving the roads and streams west of the Allegheny River. Of this amount, $400 were expended on the road between Meadville and Franklin, $400 on the road from Meadville to Mercer, and $450 on the one running from Meadville to Waterford, while $500 were given to improve the navigation of French and Le Bœuf Creeks. Another appropriation of $2,000 was granted in 1810 for the same general purpose, Crawford County getting $900, Erie, $800 and Venango, $300.

By the act of March 13, 1817, commissioners were appointed by the State

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to lay out a road fifty feet wide, beginning on the New York line, at the northern boundary of Warren County, and running thence to Meadville. The road was to be surveyed between April and November, 1817, and $3,000 were appropriated by the State for opening and clearing the same from Meadville to the New York State line. It takes almost a direct straight line northeast from Meadville, passing through Blooming Valley, New Richmond, Little Cooley and Riceville, leaving Crawford County near the northeast corner of Sparta Township, seldom deviating or avoiding hill or dale. It is said that of the Commissioners, James Miles, John Brooks and Maj. McGrady, one was interested in lands north, and another in lands south of a direct line. When one would suggest turning a hill on the north the other would object, and vice versa, so that selfishness was really the cause of this road being laid out up hill and down dale, to the inconvenience of future generations. The State road remained almost impassable for some years, and in 1826 work was still in progress upon it. It was not until the country contiguous thereto was well settled and it began to be improved by the townships through which it passed, that it could be regarded as in fair condition.

The county had also been doing a little toward improving her roads and building bridges, and expended the following amounts in that direction during the pioneer days: 1804, $102.79; 1805, $63.87; 1806, $118; 1809, $56.27; 1810, $2,293.51; 1811, $252.12; 1812, $353.14; 1813, $181.85; 1814, $64.12; 1816, $834.25; 1818, $800.20; 1819, $98.67; 1822, $308.76; 1824, $150.75; 1825, $378.09; 1826, $164.48; 1827, $143.50; 1828, $397; 1829, $402.91; 1831, $352.20; 1832, $1,999; 1833, $1,094.82; 1834, $4,019.85.

By 1810 there were roads to all points south, east and west, and the opportunities for travel and transportation became greatly improved. The roads, however, were still rough and muddy, and horseback riding was the favorite mode of travel. Many instances are related where emigrants came in with their few household goods loaded on horses' backs, the wife riding one, the husband another, and the children, if any, a third animal. Sometimes they were too poor to own more than one horse, in which case the wife and children rode, and the husband walked by their side with his gun or ax over his shoulder. As the roads became better, the once familiar two-horse wagons were introduced. These were covered with cotton cloth stretched over hickory ribs, and furnished shelter for the whole family, besides carrying their goods. There being few public houses up to 1820, each party brought their provisions along, stopping at meal times by the springs, and doing their cooking over open fires. From the direction of Pittsburgh, the French Creek route continued to be the one used till some time after the second war with Great Britain. The supplies for Perry's fleet, including the cannon, were largely transported in flat-boats up French Creek to Waterford, and from there by the turnpike to Erie. Most of the roads in the county were in poor condition as late as 1834.

The next private road building that took place in this section was the plank road mania of 1848–49, which spread all over western Pennsylvania. This method of constructing roads was regarded with great favor, and some there were who looked upon the enterprise as a stepping-stone to fortune. Great profits were figured out to induce men to invest their money, out of which they never realized a cent, losing every dollar invested. In the winter of 1848, a public meeting was held at the court house, and the advantages of the system set forth by John Stuart Riddle. Among the large owners of unsettled lands in the eastern part of Crawford County at that time, who expected to be greatly benefited by plank roads were John Stuart Riddle, David Derickson, David Dick, E. Felton and John Reynolds. With the object of opening

up these lands, and to induce people to settle upon them, the Meadville, Allegheny & Brokenstraw Plank Road Company was chartered in the spring of 1849. The company was organized by electing John Stuart Riddle, President, and John Dick, William Sharp, Alfred Huidekoper, John M. Osborn, John McFarland and William Reynolds, Managers. In 1850, J. D. Gill succeeded Mr. Huidekoper, and the following year Mr. Gill and John McFarland were succeeded by F. W. Kirby and O. Hastings. Upon the organization of the company John Miller was appointed Engineer, and during 1849 ten miles of road, extending from the arsenal in Meadville to Guy's Mills in Randolph Township. On the 19th of February, 1850, the contract for building the road was awarded to Horace and Clinton Cullum, who purchased a tract of timber land on the line of the road, and erected a large saw-mill for cutting planks; but in the fall of 1851, the contract with the Cullums was declared abandoned, and the work re-contracted to several independent parties. William Hope was appointed Superintendent of the road, and December 20, 1851, the first five miles from Meadville were finished and opened to the public. The company had by this time exhausted its subscription, and the balance of the road to Guy's Mills was completed by the Directors borrowing $4,000 on their personal credit which afterward as individuals they had to pay. The line was surveyed toward Warren, as far as Oil Creek, but no work was done beyond Guy's Mills. The road, as an investment, proved a failure, and on the 21st of June, 1857, the toll gates were pulled down, and it then became public property.

The Meadville, Klecknerville & Edinboro Plank Road Company was chartered in the legislative session of 1849–50. The books were opened at Meadville on the 5th of March, 1850, and the following officers chosen: Hon. Gaylord Church, President; Edward Saeger, Isaac Saeger, William Reynolds, and one now forgotten, Directors. The work was awarded in small contracts at an average rate of about $3,000 per mile, and in 1851 was carried to a successful completion, connecting at Edinboro with the Erie & Edinboro Plank Road. The stage route was transferred to this road, and as the grade in general was quite moderate, it proved an easy and pleasant thoroughfare. Toll was collected for some years, but the amount obtained proving inadequate to keep up repairs, and the money invested in the roads proving an entire loss, the gates were removed and the road abandoned as a private institution.

The first bridge over French Creek in this portion of the State was built in 1810–11, by Dr. Thomas R. Kennedy. It spanned the stream where now stands the Mercer Street iron bridge, in Meadville, which replaced it about 1873. It was a toll bridge until the erection of a free bridge at the foot of Dock Street, in 1828, and was soon after sold to the county. In 1815 two more bridges were built over French Creek, viz.: one at "Broad Ford," and the other at "Deadwater" (Cambridge), both by subscription. James Skelton, Christopher Blystone and Arthur McGill, were managers of the former, and Edward Hicks, Samuel Hulings and Baily Fullerton, of the latter. The same year William May built a bridge over Conneaut Outlet, near its mouth, where he previously operated a ferry-boat. Toll was exacted on all of these bridges for several years. In 1828 William Foster and Elisha Wightman, contractors, built the free bridge at Dock Street crossing, previously spoken of. It was built from county funds, and was therefore the first public bridge that spanned French Creek. The Mercer Street, Dock Street and Race Street bridges in Meadville are all substantial iron structures, while at nearly every important crossing the streams of Crawford County are spanned by the same class of bridges.

The turnpikes and plank roads built through Crawford County sunk the

many thousands of dollars invested in their construction, yet it cannot for a moment be doubted that the county at large was greatly benefited by them, and its development more rapidly accomplished.

The arrival of the stages in old times was a much more important event than that of the railroad trains to-day. Crowds invariably gathered at the public houses where the coaches stopped to obtain the latest news, and the passengers were persons of decided account for the time being. Money was so scarce that few persons could afford to patronize the stages, and those who did were looked upon as fortunate beings. The trip to Buffalo and Cleveland was twice as formidable an affair as one to Chicago or Washington is now by railroad. The stage drivers were men of considerable consequence, especially in the villages through which they passed. They were intrusted with many delicate missives and valuable packages, snd seldom betrayed the confidence reposed in them. They had great skill in handling their horses, and were the admiration and envy of the boys. Talk about the modern railroad conductor! —he is nothing compared with the importance of the stage coach driver of forty years ago.

In 1801, a weekly mail route was established between Erie and Pittsburgh, via Waterford, Meadville and Franklin. By 1803, it had been reduced to once in two weeks, but was soon changed back to the original plan, and in 1806 the route changed to pass through Mercer instead of Franklin. The mode of transportation for some years was on horseback, and it is said that the mail was often so insignificant as to be easily carried in the driver's breeches' pockets. During a good part of the time, the pouch was carried on the back of a single horse; then the mail had increased in size so that two horses were required, one carrying the driver and the other the mail; and later a horse and wagon became necessary. A semi-weekly mail was established through Meadville, from Erie to Pittsburgh, Harrisburg and Philadelphia, in 1818; a tri-weekly in February, 1824; and a daily in 1827.

The first stage route was established over the Susquehanna & Waterford, and the Erie & Waterford Turnpikes, from Bellefonte to Erie, by Robert Clark, of Clark's Ferry, in 1820 ; the first stage coach arriving at Meadville, on the 7th of November. By 1824 the route was completed through to Philadelphia via Harrisburg. In 1821 the route to Pittsburgh, by way of Mercer and Butler was completed. Gibson's hotel was the stage depot at Meadville. By 1835 a daily line of steamers connected with the stages at Erie, and the fare from Pittsburgh to Buffalo was but $6.

The introduction of stage coaches was a great step ahead, and the turnpikes were the busiest thoroughfares in the country, being the great avenues for emigration and trade between the East and West. Numerous public houses sprang up, so that at one time there was hardly a mile along the pikes without a place of entertainment for man and beast, and all did a good business. The tavern keepers of those days were usually men of much force of character, and wielded considerable political influence. For a number of years succeeding the opening of the canal, thousands of emigrants, bound for the West passed up and down its waters. The stage coaches on the turnpikes, and the packet boats on the canal, flourished until the completion of the first railroads from East to West, which speedily put an end to their business in that direction. Travel by stage and canal boat diminished almost instantly, and it was not long before the emigrant, cattle, and freight business fell off entirely. One by one the public houses closed, until none were left in operation except in the towns and villages.

Throughout the pioneer days a good share of the travel and nearly all of

the transportation into Crawford County was by way of the Allegheny River and French Creek from Pittsburgh; or by means of small boats on the lake from Buffalo to Erie, thence across the portage to Waterford, thence down Le Bœuf and French Creeks to the nearest point of destination, where the boat would unload its passengers or freight, which would then be wagoned or packed to the cabin home in the forest. The boats on French Creek generally went no further up than Waterford, but in times of good water they were often poled as far north as Greenfield Village, in Erie County. They were either canoes or flat-bottomed boats, the latter being something like the mud-scows of to-day, but small and shallow, drawing but a trifling amount of water. The passengers generally acted as a crew, and were glad of the privilege. In subsequent years these boats on French Creek became very numerous, as well as considerably improved in appearance.

As an evidence of the enterprise often exhibited by the pioneer fathers in navigable matters, we copy the following item from the *Crawford Weekly Messenger* of December 4, 1828: "Cleared from the port of Meadville, the fast floating boat 'Ann Eliza;' all the materials of which this boat was built were growing on the banks of French Creek on the 27th ult. On the 28th she was launched and piloted to this place before sunset by her expert builders, Messrs. Mattox & Towne. Her cargo consisted among other things of 300 reams of crown, medium and royal patent straw paper, with patent books and pasteboards. She left Meadville early on the 30th ult. for Pittsburgh, with about twenty passengers on board." Truly this was quick work, to build and launch a boat in two days, while on the third day she was loaded, and started on her trip early on the fourth. It must not be supposed that very much labor was expended in fancy work, though, doubtless, her passengers were as well contented with their accommodations as the average traveler of to-day is with those furnished by the palatial steamers that navigate our western rivers.

The *Messenger* of April 1, 1830, speaks of the following navigation boom on French Creek: "We are informed on good authority, that between Woodcock and Bemus' Mills, on French Creek, a distance of twenty-two miles, from ninety to one hundred flat-bottomed boats have started, or are about to start for Pittsburgh. These boats are built principally by individual farmers and are freighted with hay, oats, potatoes and various other kinds of produce; also salt, staves, bark, shingles, cherry and walnut lumber, etc. The average capacity of these boats is twenty-seven tons, and the average value of boat and cargo at Pittsburgh is estimated at $500. Calculating the number of boats at 100, the total tonnage would be 2,700, and the product at Pittsburgh $50,000. From Bemus' Mills to the mouth of French Creek, the number of boats of the above description is equal, if not greater, exclusive of rafts which make a very considerable item, so that the trade of French Creek this season may he safely estimated at $100,000." With the passing years boating and rafting on French Creek gradually diminished until about 1862, when it may be said to have ceased altogether, though an occasional boat or raft has since descended the stream.

The next step forward in internal improvements, was the building of canals. A suggestion was made as early as 1762, to unite the waters of Lake Erie with the Delaware River at Philadelphia, by way of the Schuylkill, Swatara, Susquehanna, Juniata and Allegheny. The country was too poor to undertake the enterprise then, but it was not lost sight of by the farseeing citizens of the State. A company was formed in 1791, to construct a canal from the Schuylkill to the Susquehanna, and another in 1792, to build one down the Schuylkill to Philadelphia. These corporations were consolidated

in 1811, under the name of the Union Canal Company, and authorized to extend their improvement to Lake Erie should it be deemed expedient. The canal and slackwater along the Schuylkill were not opened until 1818. The Union Canal, connecting with the latter at Reading, was completed to Middletown, on the Susquehanna, in 1827. It does not appear that the corporation made an effort to extend their work any further westward.

In the session of 1822–23, the Legislature authorized a survey to ascertain the practicability of a connection by canal of Lake Erie with the Ohio River. But two routes were recommended, viz.: one by French and Le Bœuf Creeks, and the other by the Beaver and Shenango Rivers. In 1824, the United States Government ordered an exploration of routes to connect the Potomac at Washington with Lake Erie, and in August of that year, Gen. Barnard, Col. Totten, Maj. Douglass and Capt. Poussin, United States Engineers, while engaged on this mission, encamped on the west bank of French Creek, near the site of Mercer Street bridge, Meadville. Gen. Barnard and Capt. Poussin had been officers of distinction in the French Army under Napoleon, and in 1848 Poussin represented the French Republic as plenipotentiary at Washington. The engineers remained at Meadville a few days making examinations of the surrounding country. They made an elaborate report to the Government on the feasibility of a canal from Pittsburgh to Erie. Internal improvement conventions were held at several points; and in August, 1825, a convention of delegates from forty-six counties (John B. Wallace and Arthur Cullum representing Crawford), met at Harrisburg, and passed resolutions in favor of a canal from the Susquehanna to the Allegheny, and thence to Lake Erie. In 1826 the Legislature passed the bill for the construction of the Pennsylvania Canal, which began at Columbia, Lancaster County, a few miles below the intersection of the Union Canal, and extended up the Susquehanna and Juniata to the Allegheny Mountains. These were crossed by a railway consisting of a series of inclined planes, over which boats, built in sections, were moved by stationary engines. After overcoming the mountains, the route was down the Conemaugh, the Kiskiminitas and the Allegheny Rivers to Pittsburgh. Soon after the act passed the State earnestly embarked in the enterprise, going heavily in debt for the purpose, and by October, 1834, the first boat from the East arrived at Pittsburgh, just nine years later than the completion of the Erie Canal in New York, which was successfully opened October 26, 1825.

The "Auxiliary Internal Improvement Society of Crawford County" was organized April 22, 1826, at the suggestion of the "Pennsylvania Society for the Promotion of Internal Improvement," which requested the formation of auxiliary societies in the several counties of the State. Its principal object was to encourage and assist in the building of roads and canals, which at that time engrossed the attention of the whole country. The first officers of the Crawford County society were: Hon. Henry Shippen, President; Rev. Daniel McLean, Hugh Brawley, William Wikoff and Joseph T. Cummings, Vice-Presidents; David Derickson, Recording Secretary; John B. Wallace, Corresponding Secretary; Stephen Barlow, Treasurer; H. J. Huidekoper, Thomas Atkinson, Joseph Morrison, John P. Davis, John Reynolds, William Foster and John H. Work, Acting Committee. This society was an active agency in fostering and forwarding the canal scheme, which was then agitating the public mind.

In 1826 Maj. Douglass made surveys for the French Creek Feeder, extending from Bemus' Mills to Conneaut Lake. But in the meantime a furious agitation had sprung up in northwestern Pennsylvania over the question whether the extension of the canal from Pittsburgh to Lake Erie should be by way of the Allegheny River and French Creek, or down the Ohio and up the

Beaver and Shenango Rivers. The first was known as the "Eastern" and the latter as the "Western" route, and by theadvice of the engineers in charge the Western route was finally adopted. Another controversy arose about the lake terminus of the canal, some wanting it to be at the mouth of Elk Creek, and others at Erie. The principal promoters of the Elk Creek terminus were William and James Miles, who owned a large body of land in that vicinity, and though at one time they nearly succeeded it was finally decided by the Commissioners in favor of Erie. In 1827 the law was enacted to build the Beaver & Erie Canal from Pittsburgh to Erie, also the French Creek Feeder, and as the surveys on the latter were almost completed, proposals were received and a portion of the work awarded the same summer.

As the line of the canal is fast disappearing from the topography of the county, the following account of "breaking ground" at Meadville, for the construction of the French Creek Feeder, will interest those whose memories can recall the events of more than half a century ago, and also a later generation, as a part of the pioneer history of Crawford County:

A very large and respectable meeting of the citizens of Meadville and vicinity assembled at the court house on Friday evening, August 24, 1827. George Hurst was called to the chair, and John Gibson appointed Secretary, when it was unanimously "*Resolved:* That William Foster, Ebenezer Betts, Col. William Magaw, Capt. Richard Patch and Samuel Derickson be selected a Committee of Arrangement for the purpose of adopting such measures as they should see proper, on the occasion of breaking ground on the French Creek Canal Feeder." The Committee appointed Monday, August 27, 1827, at 10 o'clock A. M. for the citizens to assemble on the Diamond for the purpose of forming a procession. When the day arrived the hour was announced by a gun from Capt. J. D. Torbett's company of artillery booming forth in thunder tones, and amidst the strains of music and pealing of bells several hundred citizens were formed in line by the Marshals of the day in the following order:

Marshal on horseback, Col. John Dick; Capt. Torbett's Company of Artillery; Capt. Berlin's Company of Light Infantry; Band of Music; President of the day, James Herrington; Orator of the day, Henry Baldwin, Jr.; Secretaries, Samuel Miles Green and Cyrus T. Smith, Esqs.; Superintendent, Gen. I. Phillips; Engineer, I. Ferguson, Esq.; Reverend Clergy; Committee of Arrangement; Persons appointed to break ground, Robert Fitz Randolph and Cornelius Van Horne; a team of seven yoke of oxen with a plow, James Fitz Randolph to hold the plow, and Samuel Lord, John Wentworth, John Ellis, and Edward Fitz Randolph to drive the oxen; eight laborers, Levi Cox, James Thorp, James Porter, Robert McCurdy, Thomas Stockton, James McMath, William Johnston and R. Neal, dressed in proper costumes with implements for excavation; Contractors; two Vice-Presidents, James Burchfield and John Reynolds; Town Council; Judiciary; Gentlemen of the Bar; Sheriff and Coroner; Citizens two and two; two Vice-Presidents, Eliphalet Betts and Samuel Torbett; Marshal on horseback, Col. Joseph Douglas.

The procession moved south to Chestnut street, thence west on Chestnut to Water Street, thence north on Water and the French Creek road (now the Terrace), to a point opposite the residence of James White (A. C. Huidekoper's), where the whole was formed into a hollow square around a rostrum erected for the occasion. Rev. Timothy Alden offered a prayer and delivered an address, which was succeeded by the event of the day, "breaking ground." This ceremony was performed by two aged pioneers, Robert Fitz Randolph and Cornelius Van Horne—the one nearly ninety, and the other eighty years of age—with as much alacrity as if the light of but twenty summers

had shone upon their heads. The hearty cheers that made the "welkin ring," testified the feelings of the assembled hundreds at this moment. Next came the team and plow; "Hurrah! let it in beam deep!" echoed from shore to shore when the glittering iron was lost beneath the green sward; then the laborers with their wheelbarrows and shovels carried off several loads of clay, amidst the repeated cheers of the people, and thirteen rounds from the artillery. The procession was again formed, and proceeding to Samuel Lord's spring (now in the grounds of William Reynolds, Esq.), all partook of a cold collation prepared by the Committee. The head of a barrel of fine old whisky was staved in, and merriment and glee was the order of the day. After refreshments, the procession re-formed and marched down Water Street to Walnut; thence east on Walnut to the Diamond, where it disbanded in good order and high spirits.

The day was a notable one to the people of western Pennsylvania, and a day of jubilee to the citizens of Crawford County, every one of whom took a deep interest in this work. It appeared as if but one desire animated the whole community—an ardent wish for its completion. Many of the earliest settlers of the county convened upon the ground to witness and take an active part in this, to them, unlooked-for event. They who in their more youthful days skirmished with a cruel and savage foe, armed with rifle and tomahawk, on the very ground where they now wielded the spade and grubbing hoe—men who traversed the country when it was but a bleak wilderness—to behold it decked with flourishing towns, and settled by an intelligent, enterprising population, might indeed fancy it was magic; yet many of those pioneers and veterans of Indian wars lived to hail the passing canal-boat as it floated triumphantly along the margin of that stream where they had beheld no other vessel than the Indian bark canoe, or the lumbering flat-bottom of former years, while a few survived to witness the railway train rushing at lightning speed over hill and dale, across brook and river.

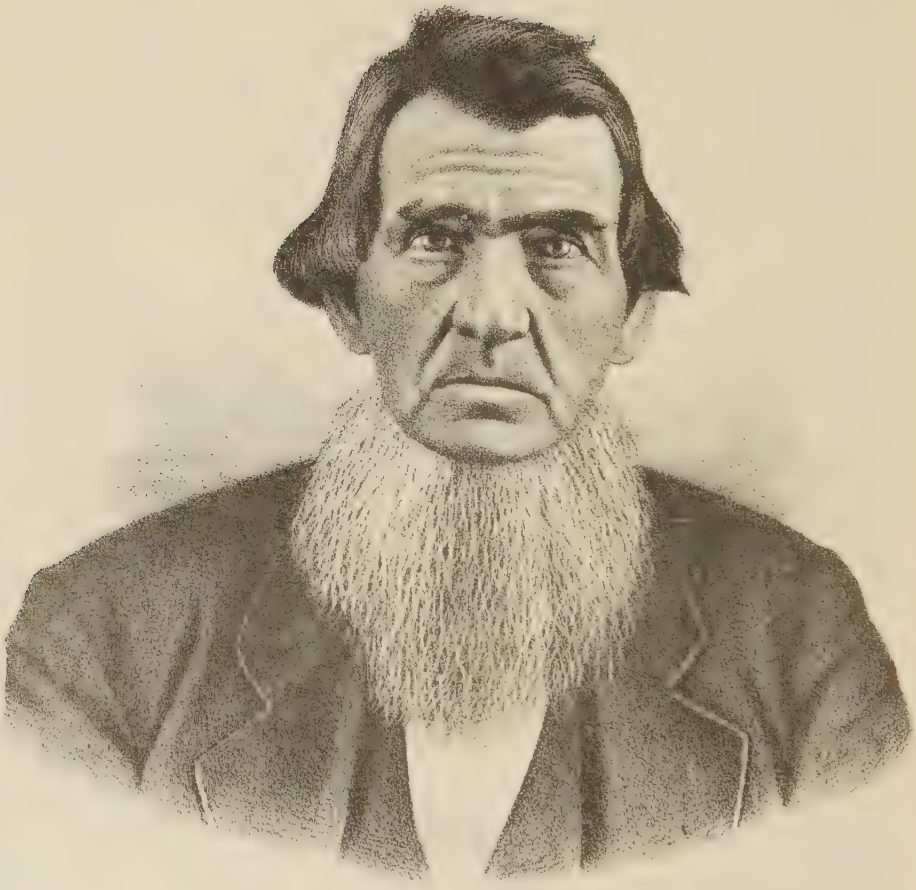
The completion of the first letting of the French Creek Feeder was celebrated by the citizens of the county on the 28th of November, 1829. A boat of large size was procured by Messrs. R. L. Potter, Nathan Fitz Randolph and John Masters, and launched upon the water of the canal at Lord's basin, just above Meadville. It was fitted up with great dispatch for the accommodation of passengers, but not proving sufficiently capacious for all who desired to take the first ride on the canal, J. H. Mattocks, assisted by Messrs. Patch, Sexton and others, built and launched a fine boat, fifty feet in length, at the Chestnut Street Meadville basin, within less than two days from the time the timber was growing in the forest, thus providing for a large number who wished to go. Messrs. James Douglas, John Dick, W. A. V. Magaw, B. B. Vincent, John McFarland and R. L. Potter, the Committee of Arrangements, procured a nine-pounder from the arsenal and put it in charge of Lieut. Mattocks. The National colors were waving from the mast erected on Chestnut Street canal bridge, and at 11 o'clock A. M. the town was enlivened by the ringing of bells, and large crowds assembled at the Chestnut Street basin, and at every available point along the line of the canal. The boom of the cannon and the cheering of the multitude announced the approach of the boat from Lord's basin towards Chestnut Street basin, where the second boat was lying. The boats were then named by William Dickson, Marshal of the Day; that of Messrs. Potter, Randolph and Masters being called the "Enterprise," and the other, by request of her builders, the "William Lehman," in honor of the man to whom Pennsylvania is so much indebted for her early system of internal improvements. At 12 o'clock the "Enterprise," drawn by two fine

horses, followed by the "William Lehman," propelled by three beautiful bays, left Chestnut Street basin in fine style, while the enthusiastic rejoicing of the passengers and spectators was drowned by the boom of the artillery. Proceeding down the canal about four miles, the boats were halted, and the party, consisting of two or three hundred persons, among whom were the venerable Robert Fitz Randolph, Cornelius Van Horne, Samuel Lord and others of the pioneer fathers and first settlers of French Creek Valley, partook of a luncheon prepared by the Committee. The boats then returned to Meadville, and after proceeding some distance above the town came back to Chestnut Street bridge, where, from on board the "Enterprise," Rev. Timothy Alden delivered an appropriate address. A National salute was then fired, and toasts drank, which closed this memorable event in the pioneer history of the county,

The principal difficulty encountered in the construction of the Beaver & Erie Canal was in overcoming the dividing ridge in Crawford County, and obtaining water from there to Erie, a continuous descent of about thirty-eight miles to the lake. To meet this difficulty, Conneaut Lake, nearly on the summit of the ridge, and about 500 feet above Lake Erie, was raised about nine feet by an embankment built across the outlet, thus converting it into a reservoir, which was supplied from French Creek. The "feeder" was the same size as the main canal, and began at Bemus' Mills, some two miles and a half north of Meadville, thence ran down the east side of French Creek to near the mouth of Conneaut outlet, where it crossed the creek in a stone aqueduct; thence passed in a northwest direction up the valley on the north side of Conneaut outlet to Lake Conneaut; thence in the same general course until it united with the Beaver & Erie Canal near the line of Sadsbury and Summit Townships. The aqueduct over French Creek was not completed until the close of 1830, and some four years passed away before the "feeder" was opened to Conneaut Lake. In the issue of the *Messenger* of December 13, 1834, the following item appears: "The communication by canal from Bemus' Mills on French Creek to Conneaut Lake has been completed entirely and the navigation is uninterrupted."

On the 28th of January, 1828, the "William B. Duncan," eighty tons, the first steamboat to ascend the Allegheny River, arrived at Franklin with 150 passengers and thirty tons of freight. This trip raised the hope that Lake Erie might be connected with French Creek, and in the summer of 1828 examinations were made to determine the feasibility of building a canal from Waterford to Erie, but the plan was deemed impracticable and therefore abandoned.

Though the "William B. Duncan" had ascended the Allegheny in 1828, the rapid current and crooked channel rendered its navigation very difficult for side-wheel steamers, the only sort then in general use. Soon afterward Robert L. Potter, of Meadville, became interested in the new invention of stern-wheels, and induced Mr. Blanchard, the inventor, to explore the Allegheny River, who pronounced it navigable for stern-wheel steamboats. David Dick, of Meadville, now became interested and persuaded a number of others to join him in furnishing means to build a boat on the new principle. The "Allegheny" was built and launched at Pittsburgh in March, 1830, and in April made the trial trip, arriving at Franklin on the 18th, thence proceeded to Warren. She made seven trips during the year, going once as far north as Olean, N. Y. This was the introduction of stern-wheel steamboats on the western waters, and therefore deserves to be recorded as due to the enterprise of Crawford County citizens.



Neal McKay.

The *Messenger* comments as follows on the successful termination of the undertaking: "We congratulate the public on the result of this experiment. It has established the important fact that steam may be advantageously applied to the navigation of the Allegheny River when the water is at an ordinary stage, and with a moderate expenditure in its improvement, at its lowest stage. By this conveyance, notwithstanding the many interposing difficulties, goods have been brought from the wharves at Pittsburgh and offered for sale in our village (Meadville), on the fifth day. This is an interesting fact, as by no other means of transit have they ever been delivered in so short a time." What would the editor think, if living to-day, of having the Pittsburgh newspapers laid upon his desk before 11 o'clock on the morning of their issue? But such a change has the genius of invention and progress accomplished all over this broad land, that we can scarcely realize the fact, how fifty years could unite, as if by magic, the most distant cities of our country. The railroad, telegraph and telephone are among the mighty engines of this century's progress, and we stand amazed at the power that invented and built these grand evidences of American civilization.

Great results were anticipated from the successful steam navigation of the Allegheny River, and the public mind of this locality was for the time diverted from the canal improvements to the navigation of French Creek by way of the "feeder" to the aqueduct, thence to Franklin by slack-water navigation, there to connect with steamers to and from Pittsburgh. The Legislature made an appropriation for the construction of the new scheme of locks and dams, and about two miles and a half of canal, from Cochranton to Evans' dam, and another piece of about three miles, near Franklin, were built as a part of the new improvement in navigation. On the evening of November 14, 1834, "The French Creek Pioneer" arrived at Meadville, the first and last to arrive by slack-water navigation, upon which so much money had been expended, and upon which such fond hopes had been centered. The large number of dams and locks greatly increased the time, cost and risk to the descending rafts and flat-boats, and these continual losses so exasperated the boatmen that the dams were destroyed as a nuisance and an obstruction to navigation.

On the 31st of December, 1834, a convention was held at Butler, Penn., to try and induce the Legislature to complete the Beaver & Erie Canal communication from Pittsburgh to Erie. Most of the western counties were represented. The delegates from Crawford were Hon. Gaylord Church, John McFarland, Col. John McArthur, Dr. J. White, William Power and David Dick. The convention drafted a memorial to be presented to the Legislature, strongly advocating and endorsing the building of said extension. Another convention, with the same object in view, was held at Erie, September 10, 1835. Work was finally begun, and progressed at irregular spots and intervals until 1842, when the State refused to appropriate any more money toward the enterprise.

The Governor's message in 1843 showed that ninety-seven and three-quarter miles were finished from Rochester, on the Ohio, the southern terminus, to the mouth of the French Creek Feeder, and forty-nine and one-quarter more, including the "feeder" and the Franklin Division, leaving in progress and nearly completed the thirty-eight and one-half miles from the point where the other work ended to Erie. Up to that date the State had expended more than $4,000,000, and it was calculated that but $211,000 more were needed to make the canal ready for boats.

At the session of 1842–43, the Legislature passed an act incorporating the Erie Canal Company, and ceding to it all the work that had been done at such immense cost, on condition that the corporation would finish and operate the

improvement. This company was organized with Rufus S. Reed as President; C. M. Reed, Treasurer; William Kelly, Secretary, and the two Reeds, Kelly, T. G. Colt, William M. Watts, B. B. Vincent and John A. Tracy, of Erie, M. B. Lowry, of Crawford County, and James M. Power, of Mercer County, as Managers. Contracts for the uncompleted work were let in September, 1843, payment to be made in the bonds of the company. The first boats to reach Erie were the Queen of the West, a packet boat, crowded with passengers, and the R. S. Reed, loaded with Mercer County coal, both coming in on the same day, the 5th of December, 1844. They were received with huzzas by the thousands gathered on the bank of the canal at Erie to witness the great event, and greeted with a cannon salute when they reached the bay. The Wayne Grays paraded during the day, and a ball was given at the Reed House in the evening. A few other boats came in the same winter, but navigation did not regularly open until the spring of 1845.

The Beaver & Erie Canal ran from south to north through the western part of Crawford County, passing in its route through the townships of West Fallowfield, Sadsbury, Summit, Summerhill and Spring. The principal engineers of the work were W. Milnor Roberts and Milton Courtright. A good business was done for thirty years after its completion, mainly in coal, iron ore and merchandise. Up to 1853, when the Lake Shore Railroad was opened to Toledo, the canal also carried large numbers of emigrants, who came to Erie by steamer from Buffalo, and took this route to the Ohio Valley. A number of packet boats for conveying passengers ran on the canal, and it was the grand avenue of trade and travel for the western counties. In 1860 the receipts were $105,311, and the expenses were $70,379. In those days the canal presented a busy sight: scores of boats were daily passing to and fro; the locks were in almost constant use; hundreds of people derived their maintenance from boating, and large sums of money were invested in various ways along the line of the improvement.

The canal continued to flourish until the completion of the Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad, which soon proved to be a formidable competitor. Had its capacity been for large-sized boats, this rivalry might not have been serious. An enlargement was proposed but never undertaken. The water of Lake Erie could not be made to flow up hill, and opinions differed whether French Creek and Conneaut Lake would furnish enough water to float the increased size of boats necessary to compete with the railroad. A company was formed, however, who had faith in the experiment. They offered Gen. Reed, who controlled most of the stock, a handsome sum for the canal, but, in the midst of their negotiations, in June, 1870, they were notified that he had disposed of it to the railroad management, who also purchased the rights and franchises, November 29, 1870. The latter operated it in an unsatisfactory manner to the boatmen until 1871, when the fall of the Elk Creek Aqueduct in Erie County gave them an excuse for abandoning the work, which was undoubtedly their original purpose. Since then the locks and bridges have been taken to pieces, the boats sold or broken up, the channel filled almost everywhere in the county, and few traces of this once important avenue remain. The abandonment of the canal ruined many boatmen and small storekeepers, and caused much injury to the towns along its route which were so unfortunate as to be aside from the line of the railroad.

The New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad had its inception in 1852. Ineffectual efforts had been made to secure an independent charter for a connecting line between the States of New York and Ohio through Meadville. In the summer of 1852 an overture was made by the Pittsburgh & Erie Railroad

Company to parties in Meadville to join interests and build the proposed road under the branching privileges of its charter. This company was chartered in 1845 to build a road from Pittsburgh to Erie, Penn., but had made little or no progress. Its subscriptions were mythical, and its management commanded little influence. By a supplement passed in 1846, subscriptions were authorized by the several counties on its line, but none were made. It was now proposed to aid in the construction of the main line by the prestige of the important branch connection between Ohio and New York.

On the 8th of October, 1852, a meeting of the railway companies interested was held in Cleveland, Ohio. The representatives present were : Jacob Perkins, President of the Mahoning Valley Railroad ; H. N. Day, President of the Clinton Line ; Judge Kinsman and Marvin Kent, of the Franklin & Warren (afterward the Atlantic & Great Western of Ohio) ; Hon. B. Chamberlain, President of the Erie & New York City ; Dr. William Gibson, David Garber, and E. Sankey of the Pittsburgh & Erie ; and the Meadville interests were represented by Darwin A. Finney and William Reynolds. These several projects were new, and all in a great measure interested in the completion of a road through Pennsylvania. At this convention a Committee was appointed to visit the New York & Erie Railroad Company and enlist their aid. Hon. Gaylord Church and William Reynolds represented the branch interests on this Committee. The interview with the New York & Erie resulted in a survey by that company, in the fall of 1852, of the line through Pennsylvania.

In the summer of 1853 an effort was made to secure individual and county subscriptions to the Pittsburgh & Erie Company, both for the main and branch lines. On the 14th of August, 1853, the Commissioners, James L. Henry, James D. McIntire and Nicholas Snyder, and the Grand Jury of Crawford County recommended, subject to an expression of public opinion, a county subscription of $200,000 applicable to the branch road. A vote of the county was taken August 18, which resulted in favor of the subscription, 3,235 votes, with only 170 against it. Ground was broken for the new road south of Meadville, on the east bank of French Creek, with all due ceremonies, August 19, 1853, and on the 22d the subscription of $200,000 was made by the Commissioners, who also on the same date appointed Joseph McArthur, Samuel B. Long, Alexander Power and William Reynolds Directors to represent Crawford County in the company.

On the 25th of August, 1853, a contract was executed for the construction of the entire branch road between the boundaries of New York and Ohio, with L. W. Howard, Charles Howard and Sebra Howard, payable five-eighths in stock of the road and $150,000 in bonds of Crawford County. The supervision of the branch was given to Hon. Gaylord Church, Dr. William Gibson and William Reynolds, and J. C. Chesbrough, of New York, was appointed Engineer. On the 14th of March, 1854, William Reynolds was appointed Superintendent of Construction, and Thomas Hassard succeeded Mr. Chesbrough, who had resigned. The financial troubles of the country and sectional hostility to the enterprise resulted in cessation of work and abandonment of the contract in December, 1854. Ten miles of road southwest of Meadville had been graded, and $76,000 had been expended by the company, including $30,000 of Crawford County bonds.

A convention of the several railway interests was held in Meadville November 11, 1856, at which a plan was matured for a united effort by the companies, and a Committee appointed to confer with the New York & Erie Railroad Company. William Reynolds and Thomas J. Power represented the Pittsburgh & Erie on this Committee. In the meantime, the friends of the branch

line had applied for a charter, and May 20, 1857, the act incorporating the "Meadville Railroad Company" became a law. The corporators were: George Merriman, Gill & Shryock, A. W. Mumford, Gaylord Church, John McFarland, James E. McFarland, John Dick, Richard Craighead, Darwin A. Finney, James R. Dick and William Reynolds. On the 13th of July, 1857, the company was organized by the election of William Reynolds, President; John Dick, Gaylord Church, Darwin A. Finney, James J. Shryock, George Merriman, James E. McFarland, John McFarland, Horace Cullum, Octavius Hastings, L. D. Williams, A. W. Mumford and James R. Dick, Directors; Harper Michell, Secretary; and James R Dick, Treasurer. By the terms of the charter, the Pittsburgh & Erie Company was authorized to transfer and the Meadville Railroad Company to receive all the subscriptions, work and franchises pertaining to the branch. On the 23d of July, 1857, the Pittsburgh & Erie Company executed a contract with A. C. Morton, of New York, for the construction of the branch line. Terms of purchase and transfer to the Meadville Company were finally closed July 27, and the contract with Morton assumed by that corporation.

The Commisioners of Crawford County had filed a bill June 8, 1857, asking for an injunction to restrain the corporation from negotiating any county bonds in possession of the company, and for the cancelation of the county subscription. The fall of 1857 was the era of a disastrous financial panic. The Illinois Central and the New York & Erie Railroad Companies became insolvent; banks suspended specie payments, and many prominent merchants and banking houses became bankrupt. Under such circumstances the contractor's negotiations in Europe were unsuccessful, and he therefore failed to carry out the terms of his contract, which was declared abandoned by the company, and a new contract made February 16, 1858, with Henry Doolittle and W. S. Streator. In September, 1858, Joseph Hill was appointed Engineer, and the location of the line east of Meadville prosecuted.

The European negotiations progressed favorably under the efforts of Mr. Doolittle and Gen. C. L. Ward, President of the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad Company, of Ohio, who returned in November, 1858, with T. W. Kennard, Civil Engineer, sent out by European capitalists to report from personal observation. On the 25th of October, 1858, the Supreme Court made a decree in the case of the application of the County Commissioners annulling the $170,000 of unissued bonds of Crawford County. The decree was based on irregularities of the Pittsburgh & Erie Railroad Company, long prior to the commencement of the branch project. The Supreme Court decided that "The Pittsburgh & Erie Company at the time the county subscription was authorized by the Legislature (1846) was destitute of legal basis, on account of the acts of the original subscribers in withdrawing their capital and subscriptions, and passing the charter into the hands of thirteen men, not one of whom appeared to have paid or subscribed or intended to become responsible for a single share of stock." This decision was near proving disastrous, as the existence of a large county subscription had been held up in European negotiations as proving the popularity of the enterprise at home, as well as for its financial importance to the company. An individual subscription had been obtained in Crawford and Mercer Counties of about $200,000, which was conditional upon completion of a proportion of the work within a limited time. Efforts to obtain a renewal after the loss of the county subscription were without avail, and the subscription became void by limitation.

Difficulties arising regarding a satisfactory connection with the Erie Railroad in the State of New York, those interested in the Ohio and Pennsylvania

companies determined to secure an independent line in that State, and that a common name should designate the several companies. The name of the Meadville Railroad was changed by act of the Legislature, passed March 10, 1859, to the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad, of Pennsylvania. On the 21st of May, the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad Company in New York State was organized, with William Reynolds, President; John Dick, Gaylord Church, James E. McFarland, W. S. Streator, J. J. Shryock, Pearson Church, Henry A. Kent, William Thorp, Henry Doolittle, D. C. Doan, Marvin Kent and E. J. Lowber, Directors. A construction contract was executed with Henry Doolittle and W. S. Streator; and on the 6th of April, 1860, the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad Company in New York State purchased the Erie & New York City Railroad. The track was laid west of Corry by May 27, 1861; was completed to Meadville October 22, 1862, and to the Ohio State line in January, 1863. Henry Doolittle having died in September, 1860, the work was carried forward by Mr. Streator until February, 18, 1861, when, by amicable arrangement, the contract with Doolittle & Streator was canceled, and a new contract made with James McHenry for the completion of the work, and under this contract the road was finished.

The track was originally six feet wide, but the gauge has been altered to the general standard of the country. The road was sold January 6, 1880, and its name subsequently changed to the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad, and in March, 1883, it was leased to the New York, Lake Erie & Western Company for ninety-nine years. It enters Crawford County from the north, near the center of Rockdale Township, and following the general course of French Creek, passes through Rockdale, Cambridge, Woodcock and Mead Townships. About three miles below Meadville, it crosses the creek and takes a southwest direction across the northern portions of Union, Greenwood and East Fallowfield, slightly touching the southern line of Sadsbury. At Stony Point it turns abruptly to the south, and traversing East Fallowfield from north to south, leaves the county near the southwest corner of that township. At Meadville there is a commodious union depot, containing all the offices of the company at this point; also a large dining-room for the convenience of the traveling public. Close to the depot the company have extensive brick shops for manufacturing and repairing engines, wherein a large force of men are constantly employed. The road is doing a good business, and is now regarded as one of the great trunk lines between the East and West.

The Franklin Branch of the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio extends from Meadville to Oil City. It was chartered as the "Eastern Coalfield Branch and Extension," and opened to Franklin June 1, 1863, and to Oil City the following year. Leaving Meadville it passes down the east side of French Creek to its mouth, thence up the northwest bank of the Allegheny River to Oil City. In its route it passes along the western boundary of Mead and East Fairfield Townships, thence across the southwest corner of Wayne, where it leaves Crawford County.

In 1845 the Pittsburgh & Erie Railroad Company was chartered to build a road from Erie to Pittsburgh, but little was done toward carrying out the project. A new charter incorporating the Erie & Pittsburgh Company was obtained in the year 1856 by parties interested in the Erie & Northeast Company. It did not specify the exact route to be taken, and a sharp rivalry for the road sprang up between Meadville and Conneautville. Subscriptions were secured along both routes, but the Conneautville one was approved by the engineers, and adopted. The new charter of the Erie & Northeast Company provided that it should invest $400,000 in the construction of a road in the direction of

Pittsburgh. With this sum and the money of the stockholders, the Erie & Pittsburgh Road was graded from near Miles Grove to Jamestown, Mercer County, and the track laid to Albion. The Buffalo & Erie Company advanced the means to lay the rails to Jamestown in 1859. In 1864, with the proceeds of a mortgage and bonds added to a few subscriptions, the road was continued to New Castle, where the Erie & Pittsburgh Road proper terminates. At that place connection is made with the New Castle & Beaver Valley Road, which connects in turn with the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago at Homewood, giving a direct route to Pittsburgh. The actual northern terminus of the track is near Miles Grove, whence it uses the rails of the Lake Shore Railroad to Erie. It enters Crawford County at the northwest corner of Spring Township, thence passes south through the townships of Spring, Conneaut, Pine, North Shenango and South Shenango, and leaves the county at Jamestown. This road is owned and controlled by the Pennsylvania Company.

The Oil Creek & Allegheny Valley Railroad is now a portion of the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia line. The section between Corry, Erie County, and Miller Farm, Venango County, was completed in 1862, principally through the efforts of Thomas Struthers and W. S. Streator. In 1865 a majority of its capital stock was purchased in the city of Erie by Dean Richmond, representing the Lake Shore & New York Central Companies, and by Thomas A. Scott, representing the Pennsylvania Company, and placed in the hands of Samuel J. Tilden, of New York, as trustee for the three corporations. It was extended to Petroleum Center in 1866, where it connected with the Farmers' Road to Oil City. Not long afterward the Allegheny Valley Road was completed to Oil City, making a continuous line to Pittsburgh. The failure of the wells on Oil Creek robbed the road of its prosperity, and it was sold out upon a mortgage and purchased by the Allegheny Valley management. It was subsequently known as the Buffalo, Corry & Pittsburgh Railroad, thence changed to the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia, which title it bears at present. This road strikes the northern line of Sparta Township northeast of Spartansburg; thence passes southwest along the eastern branch of Oil Creek, following the general course of that stream to Titusville, where it enters Venango County. It crosses the townships of Sparta, Rome, Steuben and Oil Creek, also the northeast corner of Troy.

The Union & Titusville Railroad extends from Titusville to Union City, where it connects with the Philadelphia & Erie Road. It was originated in 1865 by James Sill and P. G. Stranahan, and was completed in 1871. It runs through the townships of Bloomfield, Athens, Steuben, Troy and Oil Creek, using the track of the Oil Creek Road from Tryonville to Titusville, and is also a part of the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia line.

The Meadville & Linesville Railroad is purely a local institution, originated and built by citizens of Crawford County. In March, 1880, a small meeting of citizens of Meadville was held at the City Hall to consider the feasibility of building a competing line of railway. It was composed mainly of business men who had for years felt the ill effects of a lack of such competition. Mr. E. W. Shippen was called to the chair, and Mr. G. W. Delamater appointed to act as Secretary of the meeting. After a free and full discussion, it was resolved that the business interests of Meadville required the immediate construction of another railroad outlet, and an executive committee of fifteen citizens was appointed for the purpose of procuring subscriptions to the capital stock of a railway company, and to do whatever they might deem best to promote the building of said road. The committee organized by electing Mr. G. W. Delamater, Chairman, and Mr. H. L. Richmond, Jr., Secretary. Articles

of association were prepared and subscription papers industriously circulated among the citizens for their signatures. In the meantime they procured the services of a civil engineer, Mr. E. A. Doane, who under the directions of said committee surveyed various routes, and estimated the expense thereof. Three routes were most prominently considered, viz. : one from Meadville to Stoneboro, there to connect with the New Castle & Franklin Railroad; one from Meadville to Linesville, via Van Horne's Run and Lake Conneaut, and a third via the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Junction, French Creek Canal towpath and Conneaut Lake.

After great labor the committee secured, as they supposed, sufficient subscription to the capital stock to insure the building of the road. They then called a meeting of the subscribers, which was held at the court house July 7, 1880. At this meeting, upon the recommendation of the executive committee, the Meadville Railway Company was organized, with a capital of $125,000, and the following gentlemen elected officers: President, James J. Shryock; Secretary, F. W. Ellsworth; Treasurer, G. W. Delamater; Directors, Samuel B. Dick, G. W. Delamater, S. C. Stratton, A. S. Dickson, Cyrus Kitchen, W. S. Harper, W. P. Porter and A. C. Huidekoper. It was also resolved to build the road via the junction, canal tow-path and Conneaut Lake, to connect with the Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad, at or near Linesville, a distance of twenty and one-half miles. The officers immediately procured a charter, and commenced work on the enterprise. In the meantime they used every endeavor to secure in Meadville and along the line the entire capital stock, but after much effort they had obtained in Meadville about $88,000, in Evansburg about $6,000, and about $6,000 in Linesville, leaving $25,000 of the required amount yet to be raised. The Board of Directors found it impossible to raise more stock at home, and failure of the enterprise stared them in the face. They opened negotiations with the Pennsylvania Company, operating the Erie & Pittsburgh Road, and that corporation finally agreed to subscribe the necessary $25,000, conditioned upon the said Meadville Railroad being leased to them when completed, to be operated by them at actual net cost. As a last resort, this proposition was accepted by the Board of Directors of the Meadville Railway Company, which action was afterward approved by the stockholders.

In the fall of 1880, a mortgage of $125,000 had been authorized and executed by the Meadville Railway Company, and bonds to that amount had been sold at par. The first estimate of the cost of building the road had been about $250,000, but the subsequent extension of the line into the center of Meadville, ran the total cost up to about $312,000. The projectors of the enterprise had great faith in the ultimate success of the road, and loaned the company sufficient funds to carry it to completion. The road was finished in October, 1881, and during its first year earned over $28,000, and the second year about the same amount; but the Pennsylvania Company operated it at so large an expense, that nothing was received by the Meadville Railway Company with which to pay interest, or refund the temporary loans. Therefore the holders of the first mortgage bonds moved to foreclose and sell the property.

At this time, in the summer of 1883, an effort was made by the stockholders to adopt some plan of relief, but this signally failed. Then the unsecured creditors adopted a plan for their own security, which was simply the formation of a pool for the purchase of the road, their respective interest therein to depend upon their unsecured claims against the old company. Although this plan was fully prepared and submitted to every unsecured creditor, only two accepted it: A. C. Huidekoper and G. W. Delamater, and under the provisions of this plan, bought the road and property of the Meadville Railway

Company, on the 3d of January, 1884, for the sum of $150,000. They have since under the provisions of the law, re-organized the company as "The Meadville & Linesville Railway Company. making its capital stock $200,000, and placing a mortgage thereon of $150,000. The new company has since been operating the road, and under their enterprising and careful management it is proving a gratifying success.

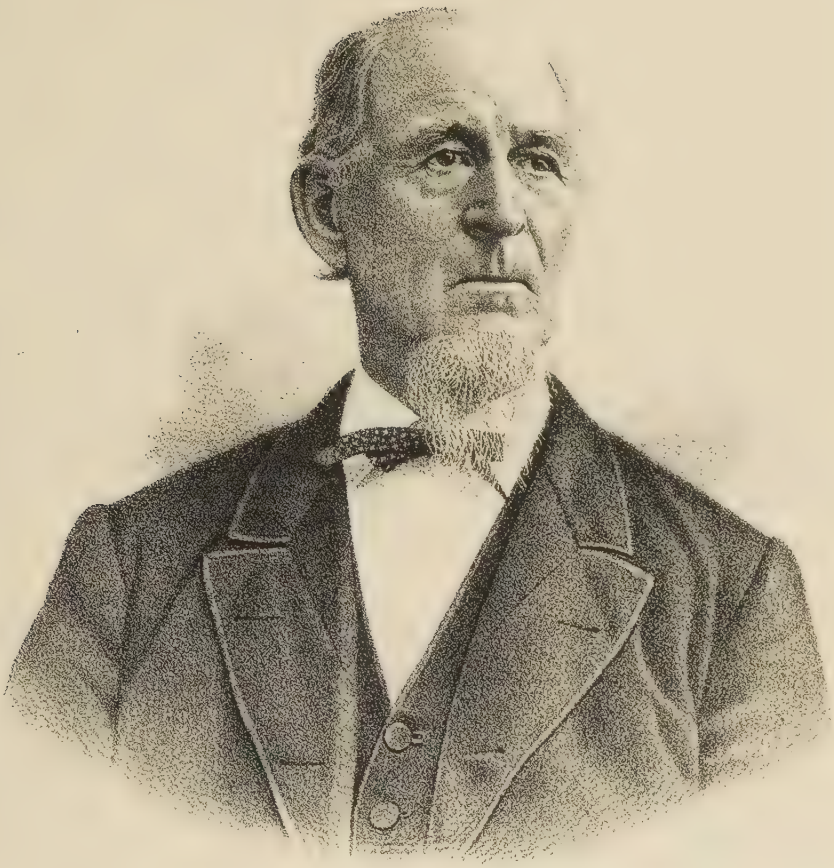
The Dunkirk, Allegheny Valley & Pittsburgh Railroad comes into Titusville from Warren County, crossing the southeast corner of Oil Creek Township; and a branch of the Lake Shore crosses the southwest corner of the county, through West Shenango Township to Jamestown. No other finished railroads touch the territory of Crawford County, though efforts have been made to construct one or two which were never completed.

CHAPTER XII.

THE BURR CONSPIRACY—ONE OF BURR'S AGENTS VISITS MEADVILLE AND ENLISTS MEN FOR THE EXPEDITION—CAPTURE OF BOATS ON THE OHIO—THE DEMOCRACY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY HOLD A CELEBRATION AT MEADVILLE TO REJOICE OVER THE FAILURE OF THE CONSPIRACY—SUGGESTIVE TOASTS DRANK ON THE OCCASION—THE FEDERALISTS TAKE OFFENSE AND ATTEMPT RETALIATION—PARTISAN STRIFE BECOMES BITTER, BUT FINALLY DIES OUT AND PEACE PREVAILS—RELIGIOUS PHENOMENA OF PIONEER DAYS—STRANGE ACTIONS OF THOSE AFFECTED—VIVID DESCRIPTIONS OF THE EXCITEMENT—EARLY MURDERS—KILLING OF A SQUAW IN MEADVILLE—MURDER OF HUGH FITZPATRICK BY VAN HOLLAND—ARREST, TRIAL AND EXECUTION OF THE MURDERER—HANGING OF LAMPHIER FOR KILLING CONSTABLE SMITH—CHARLES HIGGENBOTTOM KILLED BY GEORGE GOSNELL—THE LATTER SENT TO THE PENITENTIARY—SLAVERY IN CRAWFORD COUNTY—JOHN BROWN, OF OSSAWATOMIE.

ABOUT the beginning of the nineteenth century, a subject national and political in its character began to agitate the public mind, known in history as the "Burr Conspiracy;" it originated with that arch-intriguer of his day, Aaron Burr, the plot being concealed from all except a few whose distinct reticence could be relied upon. Nevertheless the watchful and energetic officers of the Government soon discovered that Burr was engaged in some treasonable design, and though the precise scope of the conspiracy was not positively known, they concluded to thwart his purposes if found to be treasonable. Preparations continued to be carried forward by Burr's agents, who visited different sections of the country enlisting men to join the secret enterprise.

In the fall of 1806 Comfort Tyler, one of these agents, came to Meadville and established his headquarters at the tavern of Bartholomew White, which stood on the southwest corner of Water and Centre Streets. White was an ardent Federalist, and his tavern was much frequented by leading men of that party. Political partisanship was at that time extremely bitter, and Tyler had no social intercourse with Democrats. On Monday, November 25, 1806, a number of citizens of Federal proclivities left Meadville under the leadership of Tyler for Beaver, the place of rendezvous on the Ohio River. It was generally believed they were going to join the Burr expedition, as a large number engaged in that enterprise had recently passed through Meadville from the State of New York on their route to Beaver, and such afterward proved to be



Wm. Warner

the case. Late in the fall they descended the Ohio, and in December ten boats with a considerable quantity of arms, ammunition and provisions belonging to the expedition were seized by officers of the Ohio State Government, under the authority of a Legislative act passed for that purpose. This was a fatal blow to the treasonable project, and the arrest of Burr together with many of his accomplices in February, 1807, sealed the fate of the conspiracy.

From the *Crawford Weekly Messenger* of March 12, 1807, we obtain the following account of a celebration held at Meadville by the democracy to rejoice over the arrest of the conspirators and the failure of the undertaking: "On Wednesday, the 4th of March, a vast concourse of Republican citizens from different parts of Crawford County assembled at the court house in this town to testify their approbation of the wise and salutary measures pursued by our General Government, and to express the detestation of traitors by burning the effigy of Aaron Burr, a man who has attempted to destroy its repose and tranquility. Gen. David Mead was appointed President, and Maj. William Clark Vice-President, of the meeting. After an address by Patrick Farrelly, Esq., the effigy of Burr was paraded through the different streets, then taken to the public square and committed to the flames. Toasts were given, and volleys discharged by platoons of riflemen under the command of Capt. Wilson. A liberal repast was then partaken of, after which every citizen retired in perfect peace and good order, notwithstanding every scheme which malice could invent to prevent the assemblage—although muskets were loaded and the idea held out that our object in meeting was to destroy offices and plunder and conflagrate houses, while every dirty artifice was resorted to in order to inflame and alarm the citizens—the day was closed in a manner highly honorable to the democracy of Crawford County."

Some of the toasts on that occasion will illustrate the temper of the meeting:

"Aaron Burr."—An instructive lesson to mankind wherein they will learn that the highest honors and confidence cannot rob the gallows of its legitimate rights.

"The Partisans of Aaron Burr."—As they are with him alike lovely in their lives, so in their deaths may they not be divided.

"The Infant State of Ohio."—She has strangled treason, like the young Hercules, in the cradle. May her example never cease to be imitated.

"The Western Waters."—As they afford a free so may they give a speedy export to those "choice spirits above the dull pursuits of civil life."

"The Western Country."—United in principal and interest to the Eastern, and composing one family, which neither England nor Burr will ever be able to divide.

The Federalists took offense at this patriotic demonstration, claiming it was aimed at them, and in a spirit of retaliation hung in effigy on the sign-post of Henry Hurst's tavern, which stood on the southeast corner of Water and Centre streets, and was a Democratic headquarters, a caricature of Hon. Patrick Farrelly, the orator of the previous Democratic celebration, and a leading citizen of Meadville. The caricature was affixed to the sign-post during the night preceding St. Patrick's day, and was doubtless intended as a slur on Mr. Farrelly's nationality. Upon its discovery the following morning a large crowd gathered in front of the tavern, and a deep feeling of bitter resentment spread among the Democrats. The suspended cord was cut, and the effigy brought down by a bullet from the rifle of an incensed partisan, who proclaimed himself ready to defend his party against any Federalist who upheld the outrage perpetrated the preceding night. Some fighting occurred as the direct result of this second effigy hanging, followed by a series of indictments for a violation of the laws; but like all human agitations the angry passions gradually calmed down to a state of quiescence, save the partisan strife ever more or less present in political affairs.

In the issue of May 7, 1807, the *Messenger* says: "Some of the 'choice spirits' who left this town last fall to aid the 'Little Emperor' (Aaron Burr) in the establishment of his empire, have returned, and again commenced 'the dull pursuits of civil life.' They were among those who were taken prisoners by order of the executive of the Mississippi Territory immediately after Burr's elopement." In the course of time old party lines were changed or obliterated by the formation of new parties, and many of those whom the local events connected with the "Burr Conspiracy" had estranged became the warmest political friends.

Religious Phenomena of Pioneer Days.—One of the memorial events of religious excitement in this country, was the "great Kentucky revival," which commenced in 1800, and spread throughout the Northwest. It was looked upon by religious enthusiasts as a remarkable manifestation of spiritual influences and was attended with nervous bodily affections, much resembling epilepsy. It was not unusual, in a congregation assembled for worship, to see one-fourth of the number fall prostrate in the early part of the exercises. The singing affected most sensibly, and as the mind became absorbed in devotional feelings, the bodily symptoms came on with more or less power; and what was a peculiarity, the sensations of the subject (who to the beholder seemed to suffer from the nervous spasms) was by them described as pleasant beyond expression. Frequently after the first paroxysm, the person lay motionless and almost breathless, entranced as it were; the whisper of a stanza of a devotional hymn, or ejaculation of an expressive sentence such as "Glory Hallelujah!" was the only manifestation of consciousness, during a period sometimes extending to an hour or more. The first experience of the "Power" (as it was familiarly called) was usually in a public or social meeting for worship. The earlier symptoms were irregular breathing, long inspirations with a slight hissing sound, and a sudden rigidity of the muscles; then a falling backward, with no apparent instinct of self preservation. After a first experience the person became very susceptible to the excitement attendant on religious exercises, whether of a public or private character. Young women frequently fell from their seats at the spinning-wheel while singing a favorite hymn, and were often affected in a similar manner at private devotions.

Some persons were more easily wrought upon than others, and the paroxysms continued longer and the contortions were more violent. After some two or three years had passed by, the excitement gradually subsided, until it finally disappeared entirely. Many young men who had been its subjects became pioneer ministers of the frontier settlements; but not all of those who had experienced the "power," remained hopeful or edifying Christians. The bodily affection (commonly called the "jerks") continued its visitations with some for a year or two, every exciting cause producing a repetition; while with others it was limited to a few or even one paroxysm.

The whole of western Pennsylvania was visited in 1801-02, by this strange religious excitement. But this region was remote from Kentucky, the central point of influence, whence flowed with resistless energy a mental and physical phenomenon, that arrested alike the virtuous and the vicious, and for the origin and operation of which human philosophy appeared to be at fault; therefore, it was attributed to Divine agency. All who have given an account of the scenes that occurred agree that language is inadequate to describe many of them. One writer, who was present at a large meeting in Kentucky, says: "It was sublime, grand, awful! The noise was like the roar of Niagara. The vast sea of human beings was agitated as by a storm. The tide of emotion seemed to roll over them like tumultuous waves. Sometimes hundreds were swept

down almost at once, like the trees of the forest under the blast of a wild tornado. Seven ministers addressed the multitude, at the same time, in different parts of the encampment. At times the scene was surprisingly terrible, and the boldest heart was unnerved." Another writer says: "At one time I saw at least five hundred swept down in a moment, as if a battery of a thousand guns had been opened upon them. The feeling became intense, the excitement indescribable and beyond control."

The first manifestation of the "Power" in this portion of the State, occurred in Rev. Elisha McCurdy's charge, at Three Springs Presbyterian Church, during a communion season, in September, 1802. One Sunday afternoon a considerable number of persons were seized with the "jerks," so that at the close of the services they were unable to retire from the ground without assistance.

Rev. Robert Johnston, the second pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Meadville, in a letter addressed to Rev. Dr. Elliott, makes the following remarks in reference to this peculiar bodily affection: "The effects of the work on the body were truly wonderful, and so various that no physical cause could be assigned for their production. I have seen men and women sitting in solemn attitude, in a moment fall from their seats helpless, and lie sometimes nearly an hour as motionless as a person in a sound sleep. At other times the whole frame would be thrown into a state of agitation so violent as seemingly to endanger the safety of the subject; and yet in a moment this agitation would cease, and the person arise in the full possession of all their bodily powers, and take their seats composed and solemn, without the least sensation of pain or uneasiness. And, although the subjects were in the habit of falling anywhere and everywhere, when engaged in religious exercises, I have never known or heard of anyone being injured. The physical effects of the excitement on the body was by no means a desirable appendage in the view of the sensible part of the community; but they were evidently irresistible, and many who came to mock and oppose remained to pray."

Early Murders.—The only murder ever perpetrated within the limits of Meadville was the killing of his squaw by a drunken Indian, at the door of Samuel Lord's store in 1805. This store was kept in a small one-story log building on the northwest corner of Walnut and Center Streets, where the cottage residence of John A. Sergeant now stands. Mr. Lord was an experienced frontiersman, spoke the Indian language and had a large share of their custom. Their principal purchases consisted of whisky, for which most of them possessed an intense and ungovernable appetite. When under the influence of liquor the Indians were regarded as very dangerous, and it was while in this state that the savage sunk his tomahawk into the brain of his inoffensive squaw. If punished for the deed, it must have been by his own brethren, as nothing regarding it appears on the court records of that day.

On the 7th of February, 1817, George Speth Van Holland murdered Hugh Fitzpatrick, an Irish Catholic, who in 1810 settled about one mile northeast of the site of Spartansburg. Van Holland first appeared in this vicinity at the cabin of Daniel Carlin of Rome Township, the father-in-law of Mr. Fitzpatrick, and inquired how the settlers were provided with money. Mrs. Carlin thoughtlessly said her son-in-law, Mr. Fitzpatrick, had a greater amount than any one near. Thither the stranger bent his footsteps, on the afternoon of February 6, and requested permission to remain over night. His request was willingly granted, and though the cabin contained but one room, he was nevertheless welcomed with all the generous hospitality characteristic of the Irish race. A bed was made for the guest upon the floor, and all retired to rest; but in the dead of night Van Holland arose, found an ax and sank it into the

head of his sleeping host. Mrs. Fitzpatrick awoke, but fainted on beholding the horrible spectacle. When she recovered the murderer demanded that she should procure the money and accompany him to Canada. The fortitude and intelligence of the pioneer woman did not forsake her in the hour of trial. Apparently acceeding to his demand, she ascended to the loft overhead, poured her hoarded silver into a barrel of maple syrup, and returned with about $40 in bills, stating that that was all she had. The inhuman monster now wished to kill her babe, which was only a few weeks old, but the entreaties of the mother saved its life. He then ordered her to prepare the horses for the journey, and she went to the stable, turned out the animals and returned with the announcement that she could not catch them. Van Holland then went to the stable, and no sooner had he left the house, than she seized her babe, darted out by the door and hastened to the nearest neighbor, who lived some two miles distant. It was a bitter cold night, and deep snow covered the ground. The murderer soon discovered her flight and started in pursuit, swearing vengeance on the wife of his victim. When he had almost overtaken her, the piercing wind blew out his lantern, and he gave up the chase. The frightened woman sped onward through the freezing night up the little ravine, and more dead than alive finally reached the cabin of James Winders, in Concord Township, Erie County, Penn., to whom she told her tale of woe.

As soon as daylight appeared the nearest settlers were notified of the crime, and on the following day, February 9, Andrew Britton, Baszilla Shreve, Bradley Winton and another whose name is not remembered, found Van Holland encamped in the woods some three or four miles from the site of the murder and conveyed him to Meadville. In May, 1817, he was tried before the following jury: Thomas McMichael, Robert Story, Solomon Lord, James McConnell, John Linn, Andrew Gibson, Joseph Murtrie, David Nelson, Joseph Garwood, John Yordie, Hugh Murdock, and Jacob Kline was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. His execution took place July 26 of that year, within the present limits of Meadville, east of Grove and south of Chestnut Streets. From the date of his arrest until his execution he spent his time in reading the Bible and other religious books, but showed little or no sign of sorrow for his crime, or interest in his impending fate. Van Holland possessed great muscular strength, and at one time nearly made his escape from the old log jail, by bending with his hands the iron bars under the hearth in his cell. On the day of execution he pushed from the scaffold William Johnson, who had been hired by Sheriff Samuel Torbett to take charge of the hanging, claiming that the Sheriff should do his own work, and endeavored to jump upon him, but was frustrated in his devilish design by the rope, which prevented him from accomplishing his object. It is said that Johnson subsequently died from the effects of the injury received by the fall from the scaffold. The crime for which Van Holland suffered death is without parallel in this portion of the State; and the only extenuating circumstance connected therewith, is the fact that he was believed by many to be partly deranged, caused by a sunstroke received while serving in the English army in the West Indies.

The culprit was a native of Canada, and the son of Speth Van Holland, a New Hampshire Tory, of Dutch origin, who, upon the the triumph of the colonies in 1783, removed to the British dominions. After Van Holland's execution, letters were received requesting a suspension of sentence, in order that he might be interviewed about a murder committed in New Brunswick, in which it was supposed he was implicated. His victim's widow subsequently married Patrick Coyle, of Rome Township, and now (June, 1884,) is still living near Centerville with that daughter who, when a small babe, she carried in her

arms through the desolate forest on the memorable night when she fled from her husband's murderer.

David Lamphier was hanged at Meadville, in the fall of 1822, for the murder of a Constable named Smith, while the latter was attempting to arrest him. The act was a hasty one, without premeditation, and a previous warning by Lamphier to the Constable to keep away from him, led principally to his conviction. Revs. Alden and Jackson ministered to his spiritual welfare, and Sheriff Withrow had charge of the execution, which was witnessed by about 4000 people. The Meadville Light Artillery, commanded by Capt. Blossom, and a company of militia, under Capt. Gibson, acted as guard around the scaffold, which stood in a small ravine, near the site of Sackett Murray's residence, on Terrace Street. Lamphier walked from the jail to the place of execution, a distance of nearly a mile, accompanied by the Sheriff, Coroner, and several members of the bar, and the county officials, and manifested throughout the trying ordeal the greatest composure and resignation to his fate.

In July, 1833, George Gosnell attacked and killed Charles Higgenbottom. Both were laborers working on the "French Creek Feeder," then in course of construction, and a number of others were also engaged in the fight which resulted in the death of Higgenbottom. The following September Gosnell was tried, found guilty of murder in the second degree, and sentenced to the penitentiary for life. These comprise the only murders committed in this county during the first thirty-three years of its history, and but one of the number was premeditated or cold-blooded in its character.

Slavery in Crawford County —Our more youthful readers may not be aware that a species of slavery and traffic in human beings once existed throughout this State; but such is the fact, and in 1808 there were 605 negro slaves in Pennsylvania. The early court records of Crawford County contain many such items as the following: "William Davis, farmer of Mead Township, Crawford County, returns to the Clerk of the Peace of said county, one female mulatto child called Dinah, born on the 25th day of April last of his negro woman Vine. Sworn and certificate filed October 28, 1802." Also, "Alexander McIntire, inn-keeper of Meadville, Crawford County, returns to the Clerk of the Peace of said county, one female negro child called Mary Ann, born of his negro woman Sarah, on or about the 25th of August last, whom he purchased of Rufus S. Reed, of Erie, which child has to serve until twenty-five years of age. Sworn and certificate filed January 30, 1804." In the *Crawford Weekly Messenger* of December 24, 1831, the following notice, redolent of slavery, appears: "For sale—The time and service of a *colored boy*, who is twelve years old, and has sixteen years to serve; of good constitution and disposition. Purchasers are referred for terms and further particulars to Robert L. Potter, Esq." Soon after this date the agitation against the institution of slavery began to be felt in this State, and in July, 1835, a meeting was held in the court house, and an anti-slavery society organized. Capt. James Cochran was Chairman of the meeting, and Joseph E. Holmes Secretary. Thirty years after this meeting the great Rebellion had closed and with it had passed away forever the foul blot of slavery.

John Brown of Ossawatomie. No inconsiderable portion of the life of this misguided but heroic character was passed in the County of Crawford, and belongs to her early history. John Brown was born at Torrington, Conn., May 9, 1800. When but five years of age his father moved West to Hudson, Ohio. Ten years passed and he began work at the trade of tanner and currier, which business employed his time until he was about twenty years of age. He acted as foreman in the business followed by his father, and, while that was

not neglected, he at the same time obtained access to a valuable library, and made some acquirements in education. At the age of eighteen his mind turned toward religion, and he made some progress in preparing for the duties of a minister in the Congregational Church. This design was defeated on account of inflammation of the eyes; but a knowledge of surveying being acquired, he performed more or less work of this character in the western country. He is found in Athens Township, Crawford County, actively engaged in opening the State road through the township. Having married while at Hudson, Dianthe Lusk, June 21, 1820, he in 1826 settled in Richmond Township, and engaged in his trade of tanning in connection with farming and sheep-raising. The old tannery built by Brown, and standing near the center of the township, is still pointed out to the passer-by. It is averred by an employe that he would not sell his leather till perfectly dry, lest the purchaser should lose in weight. Joining the Presbyterian Church, he continued in communion till death. His wife dying in 1832, in the year following he married Mary A. Day, of Meadville. He was found at Franklin Mills, Ohio, in 1835; at Hudson, in the wool business, in 1840; then at Akron, Ohio, in partnership with a man named Perkins. He moved, in 1846, to Springfield, Mass., opened a large warehouse and sold wool on commission for Ohio and western Pennsylvania farmers. The New England manufacturers combined, and deprived him of a market. He then shipped 200,000 pounds of wool to England, where, being unable to sell it for more than half its value, he was reduced to indigence. He had, while a boy, thought of an attempt to free the American slave, and proposed a plan prepared in about 1839 with that design in view, to the leading Abolitionists of England, to which they gave no attention. He returned to America, gave up the wool business, made the acquaintance of Gerritt Smith, of Peterboro, N. Y., to whom he offered his services as superintendent of a colony of colored men to be established on lands owned by Smith in the wilderness of the Adirondacks, and was accepted. Brown remained two years, from 1849 till 1851, at North Elba, N. Y., and then returned to Akron to manage the farm of Mr. Perkins, and re-embark in the wool business. Removing in 1855 to North Elba, he there left his family, and went to Kansas to aid his sons, who had preceded him and settled there. His subsequent life is a well-known story. We see him at Ossawatomie in August, 1856, with sixteen ill-armed men holding at bay a band of 500 invading Missourians, fully equipped and bent on his destruction. In May, 1859, he inaugurated his lawless expedition by calling a secret convention of sympathizers at Chatham, Canada, and adopting a constitution. In July he had rented a farm-house some half-dozen miles from Harper's Ferry, and made of it a magazine for warlike material. His movement was made on the night of October 16, 1859, when with twenty followers he surprised Harper's Ferry, captured over forty prisoners, and occupied the arsenal and armory. Great excitement followed. Large bodies of troops were marched to attack him, and having held out till two of his sons and most of his men were slain, and himself badly wounded, his surrender was made. He was tried in November, and hung December 2, 1859, at Charlestown, Va. His tragic death went far toward the achievement of his mad purpose, viz., the freedom of the slave and his endowment with civil rights; and a song, of which John Brown was the subject, was enthusiastically sung by many a Northern regiment on its way to the battle-field.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUDICIARY—PIONEER COURT HOUSES, THEIR SIMPLICITY AND MANY USES—FIRST BUILDINGS USED FOR COUNTY PURPOSES IN CRAWFORD COUNTY—FIRST TERM OF COURT AND AMUSING INCIDENT CONNECTED THEREWITH—SECOND SESSION AND FIRST GRAND JURY IMPANELLED—INDICTMENTS FOUND BY THIS JURY—PIONEER MODE OF SETTLING DISAGREEMENTS—ANECDOTE OF JUDGE MEAD—SECOND GRAND JURY—FIRST JURY TRIAL IN CRAWFORD COUNTY—EARLY PRACTICE AND PRACTITIONERS—THE BENCH AND BAR—PRESIDENT, DISTRICT AND ADDITIONAL LAW JUDGES—ASSOCIATE JUDGES—DEPUTY ATTORNEY-GENERALS AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS—UNITED STATES COURTS—THE MEN WHO ORGANIZED THE FIRST COURT AT MEADVILLE—BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES OF LEADING MEMBERS OF THE BENCH AND BAR—PRESENT BAR OF THE COUNTY—RESIDENT ATTORNEYS OUT OF PRACTICE—DECEASED ATTORNEYS.

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that a large number, probably a majority, of the people in every county have very little practical experience in the courts, and although they have the legal capacity to sue and be sued, never improve their opportunities or appear in court, unless it be on compulsion as witnesses or jurors; yet, as the one great conservator of peace, and as the final arbiter in cases of individual or neighborhood disputes, the court is distinguished above and apart from all and every other institution of the land.

In many counties the court house was the first, and usually the only public building in the county. The first court houses were not very elaborate buildings, to be sure, but they are enshrined in memories that the present can never know. Their uses were general, rather than special, and so constantly were they in use, day and night, when the court was in session, and when it was not in session, for judicial, educational, religious and social purposes, that the doors of the pioneer court houses, like the gates of God's mercy, stood open day and night, and the small amount invested in those old hewn-logs, and rough benches, returned a much better rate of interest on the investment, than do those stately piles of brick and granite which have taken their places. The memorable court house of early times was a building adapted to a variety of purposes, and had a career of great usefulness. School was taught, the gospel preached and justice dispensed within its rough-hewn walls. Then it served frequently as a resting-place for weary travelers, and indeed its doors always swung on easy hinges. The old people of the settlement went there to discuss their own affairs, and learn from visiting attorneys the news from the outside world. In addition to the orderly assemblies which formally gathered within its one bare room, other meetings no less notable occurred. It was a sort of a forum whither all classes of people went for the purpose of gossiping and telling or hearing something new.

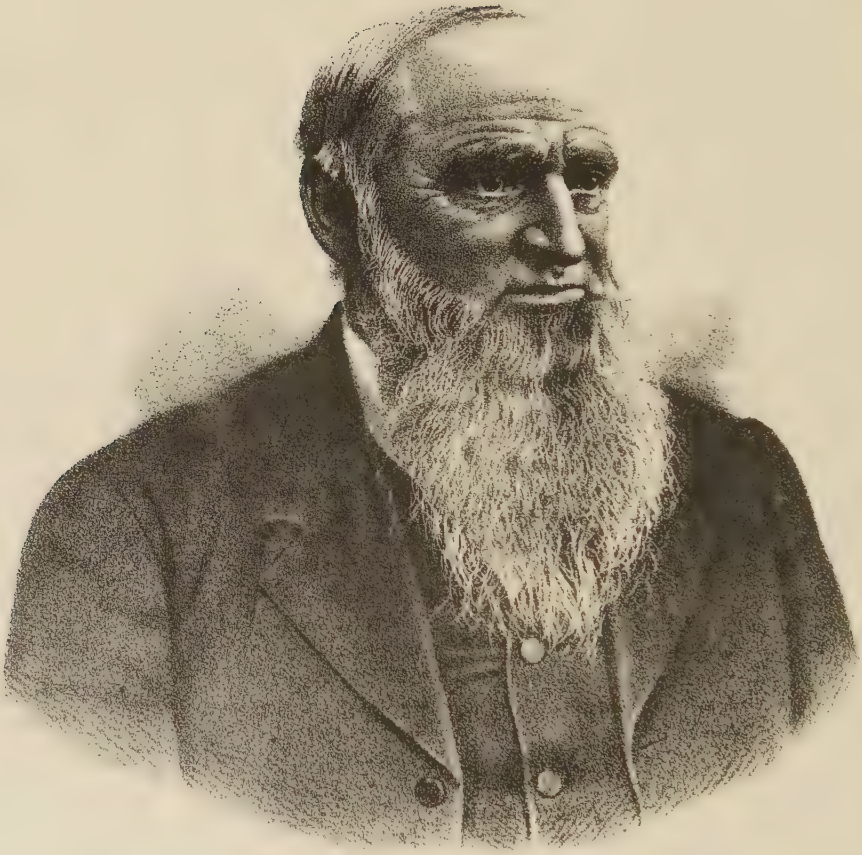
To that old court house ministers came of different faiths, but all eager to expound the simple yet sublime truths of the Gospel, and point out for comparison the thorny path of duty and the primrose way of dalliance. Often have those old walls given back the echoes of the sounds of praise, and many an erring wanderer has had his heart moved to repentance by the strains of homely eloquence heard therein. With Monday morning the old building changed in character, and men went thither seeing not the mercy of God, but

the justice of man. The scales were held with an even hand. Those who presided, usually knew every man in the county, and they dealt out substantial justice, and the broad principles of natural equity prevailed.

The first session of the courts in Crawford County, as well as all subsequent sessions until the erection of the old log court house on the west side of the Diamond, in 1804, was held in the upper story of William Dick's residence, on the northeast corner of Water Street and Cherry Alley. This building was erected by Mr. Dick in 1798, and is yet standing. The Prothonotary's office was in the second story of a building which stood on the northwest corner of Water and Centre Streets, the postoffice being on the first floor of the same structure. The jail was located in a rear room of a log house on the southwest corner of Water Street and Steer's Alley, then owned by Henry Richard. It was somewhat repaired and strengthened in 1801, and a high post fence built by the county around the rear of the structure to enclose a jail yard. A tavern occupies the front part of the building, where those attending court could find plenty of refreshment for man and beast.

The record of this session reads as follows: "At a Court of Common Pleas held and kept at Meadville, for the county of Crawford, the seventh day of July, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred, before David Mead, and John Kelso, Judges present, and from thence continued by adjournment until the ninth day of the same month inclusive." The jurisdiction of this court extended over the newly erected counties of Crawford, Erie, Mercer, Venango and Warren, all of which were organized for judicial purposes under the name of Crawford County. This session was principally devoted to the admission of five attorneys: Edward Work, Henry Baldwin, Steel Semple, George Armstrong and Thomas Collins; to the erection of townships, and issuing of licenses, and the appointing of Justices of the Peace, Constables, Supervisors and Overseers of the Poor.

In the lecture on the history of Crawford County delivered by William H. Davis, in 1848, he tells the following anecdote of an event which occurred at this session:—"The first court ever held in the county of Crawford was in the year 1800, Judges Mead and Kelso presiding. Having a court, it was also necessary that they should have a jail. The building used for that purpose was somewhat better than the one proposed for the same purpose at the first court held in Butler County, as reported by Breckenridge in his 'Recollections of the West,' although perhaps it was not any more safe. It was a log cabin which stood where the back part of the present residence of Michael H. Bagley now is (southwest corner of Water Street and Steer's Alley.) The first prisoner who was its occupant was put in for contempt of Court. He was trolling forth some ditty in the true spirit of frontier liberty, immediately in front of the room occupied by the court, to the great annoyance of judges, lawyers, and suitors. The Court sent the Sheriff to silence him. The person requested the Sheriff to tell the Court to take a trip to pandemonium, using those three short monosyllables so expressive of a direction to visit that place, and kept on with his song. For this contempt the Court ordered him to be committed to jail. He was accordingly taken by the Sheriff and placed in the log cabin, which was very securely locked. But unfortunately for the Court, it was found that the jail "leaked." The chimney to this cabin was an old fashioned one, built of sticks, and large enough to have admitted a span of horses. The prisoner clambered up the chimney on the inside, and down them on the outside, almost as easily as he could have ascended and descended a ladder, and actually marched down the street a short distance in the rear of the Sheriff, carolling forth his song."



Wm Morse

During the second session of the Court of Crawford County, in October, 1800, Hon. Alexander Addison on the bench, the first grand jury met, and was composed of the following persons: William Hammond, John Williamson, Aaron Wright, John Little, John Walker, John Davis, Lewis Dunn, Abraham Williams, Archibald Davidson, Jabez Colt, James Herrington, William Clark, James Fitz Randolph, Nathan Williams, Thomas Campbell, James Quigley, William Armstrong and John Patterson. Seven indictments were found by this grand jury: one for larceny, two for assault and battery, one for forcible entry and detainer, and three for riot—which fairly demonstrates that the pioneer fathers readily took the law into their own hands. In fact, during the first few years after the organization of Crawford County, the records show that the great majority of cases tried in her courts were those in which physical prowess predominated. This is apt to be the case in any newly settled country, and goes to prove that the strong arm of the law is a very necessary appendage in the progress and evolutionary process of civilization. Man as a rule does not respect the rights of others from an innate desire to be just, but because he knows that unless he stands within the bounds of the law he will be liable to punishment; and, therefore, it is fear of the law more than a love of justice that controls the rougher element of every community. It is true that with the progress of the centuries the coarser nature in man has been gradually toned down by religious influences, and in every age thousands of men have acted justly and honestly irrespective of human laws.

Prior to the enforcement of the municipal law in the valley of French Creek, it must not be presumed that the settlers lived in the society of each other in all the peace and harmony which characterized the golden age. Disputes, hot and fierce, often would and did happen. These were sometimes settled by the first method of determining contests known to the common law, viz: trial by battle; but more frequently were referred to the arbitration of the first person who might pass by. A single instance of this kind of arbitration then in practice was often related during his lifetime by William Miles, of Union City, Erie County, Penn. He stated that the first time he visited Meadville he was traveling with a companion on foot, each carrying a heavy knapsack. Near the upper end of Water Street they came upon two men in hot contention about a corn-field which one had agreed to cultivate for the other. One of these men was David Mead, the other John Wentworth. Being unable to agree, they immediately referred the case to the two strangers for their decision. They unslung their knapsacks, made use of them as "wool sacks," heard the parties and their allegations, rendered judgment and resumed their loads and pursued their journey. The judgment must have been just, for with it, the narrator says, "both the litigants were perfectly satisfied."

David Mead was one of the first two commissioned Justices of the Peace in northwestern Pennsylvania, and therefore to him was committed, as sole magistrate of what is now Crawford County, the enforcement of the laws of the commonwealth. One of the first cases on his docket was an action of debt, wherein he himself was plaintiff and Robert Fitz Randolph defendant. It happened, very unfortunately, that when the Governor gave the people a Justice he forgot to give the Justice a Constable. Here was a difficulty which would have puzzled one of our modern conservators of the peace and collector of debts. But David Mead was to be deterred by no such difficulty. He issued the summons and served it on the defendant himself. When the day of hearing came a trial was had and judgment rendered for the plaintiff for the amount of his claim. He then issued an execution, served it himself by levying on a horse, the property of the defendant. He then advertised the prop-

erty for sale, and stuck up the notices himself. When the day of sale came, he sold the property and bought it in himself, and then paid the surplus money over to the defendant.

The second grand jury of this county was convened January 5, 1801, and consisted of Alexander Buchanan, Joseph Andrews, John Irwin, James Dunn, James Burchfield, Allen Scrogg, Henry Heth, William Hope, James Moore, Nicholas Lord, Jacob Hilderbrand, Henry Reichard, Samuel Torbett, Elipha-let Betts, Frederick Baum, Daniel Holten, Samuel Fisher, Samuel Foster and William Foster.

The first trial by jury in Crawford County occurred on the 6th of January, 1801, Hon. Alexander Addison presiding, the case being the Commonwealth *vs.* Hugh Johnston, indicted by the grand inquest of October, 1800, for assault and battery on the body of John Sherman. The jury which sat upon this case were Robert Stitt, James Dickon, Alexander McNair, William Herriott, Theodorus Scowden, Joshua Hale, Alexander Dunn, Lawrence Clancy, Hugh Montgomery, George McGunnegle, Robert Bailey and Robert Kilpatrick, who found Johnston not guilty as charged in the indictment.

When the settlement was young and isolated, legal science flourished with a vigor unusual in rude societies, and the bench and bar contained many men of eloquence and learning. The collision of such opposite characters, together with the unsettled state of the county, produced a mass of curious incidents, many of which are still preserved, and circulate at the bar in the hours of forensic leisure. In those days the practice of law was a very different business from what it is now. The country was thinly settled, the people poor, and fees were correspondingly small. The lawyers were obliged to practice in a dozen counties in order to make a livelihood, and some of them were away from their homes and offices more than half of the time. They traveled from one county seat to the other on horseback, with their legal papers and a few books in a sack across the saddle. A number of lawyers usually rode the circuit together, and had their appointed stopping places, where they were expected. On their arrival, the chickens, dried apples, maple sugar, corn-dodgers and old whisky suffered, while the best story-tellers regaled the company with their humor and anecdotes.

Among the most prominent of those who attended the courts of Crawford County during the pioneer days were Henry Baldwin, Patrick Farrelly, Ralph Marlin, Alexander W. Foster, George Selden, John B. Wallace, John Stuart Riddle and David Derickson, of Meadville; Steel Semple, William Wilkins, John Woods, Parker Campbell, George Armstrong, Thomas Collins and James Ross, of Pittsburgh; Samuel B. Foster, John Banks and John J. Pearson, of Mercer; Thomas H. Sill, of Erie, and John Galbraith, of Franklin (afterward of Erie), several of whom rose to high official distinction.

The courts of common pleas were held by the President Judge, aided by two Associate Judges—usually farmers of good standing—until May, 1839, when a district court was created to dispose of the accumulated business in Crawford, Erie, Mercer and Venango Counties. Hon. James Thompson, of Venango, was appointed to the District Judgeship, and filled the position until May, 1845. The term originally was for five years, but was extended one year by request of the bar. Before the constitution of 1838 all Judges were commissioned for life or good behavior, but that instrument limited the terms of President Judges to ten years, and of Associate Judges to five years. Previous to 1851 both the President Judges and Associate Judges were appointed by the Governor, the first election by the people occurring in October of that year.

The office of Additional Law Judge was created in 1856—Hon. David Derickson, of Crawford County, being its first incumbent—and expired by the operation of the constitution of 1873 on the 17th of April, 1874. The Associate Judgeship was abolished by the same instrument, and since that time the entire duties of the court have been performed by the President Judge. All Law Judges in the State are elected for ten years.

In 1870 Crawford County was cut off from the Sixth Judicial District, which then embraced Crawford and Erie Counties, and created as the Thirtieth, Walter H. Lowrie being elected in the fall of that year President Judge of the new district. The following is a list of the President, District and Additional Law Judges with the dates of their commissions:

President Judges.—Alexander Addison, August 17, 1791; Jesse Moore, April 5, 1803; Henry Shippen, January 24, 1825; Nathaniel B. Eldred, March 23, 1839; Gaylord Church, April 3, 1843; John Galbraith, November 6, 1851; Rasselas Brown, appointed to fill a vacancy, June 29, 1860, caused by the death of Judge Galbraith; Samuel P. Johnson, December 3, 1860; Walter H. Lowrie, December, 1870; S. M. Pettis, appointed to fill a vacancy; December 20, 1876, caused by the death of Judge Lowrie; Pearson Church, January 24, 1878.

District Judge.—James Thompson, May 13, 1839.

Additional Law Judges.—David Derickson, first Monday in December, 1856; John P. Vincent, first Monday in December, 1866.

Four President Judges have died in office: Hon. Jesse Moore, at Meadville, December 21, 1824; Hon. Henry Shippen at Meadville, March 2, 1839; Hon. John Galbraith, at Erie, June 15, 1860; and Hon. Walter H. Lowrie, at Meadville, November 6, 1876.

One Judge of the district—Hon. Alexander Addison—was impeached and removed from office. "Judge Addison," says Mr. Hall, of Pittsburgh, "possessed a fine mind and great attainments. He was an accomplished scholar, deeply versed in every branch of classical learning. In law and theology he was great; but although he explored the depths of science with unwearied assiduity, he could sport in the sunbeams of literature, and cull with nice discrimination the gems of poetry." His impeachment occurred on account of his absolute refusal to allow one of the Associate Judges to charge the jury after his own charge had been delivered.

Hon. Nathaniel B. Eldred resigned the Judgeship in 1843 to take the place of Naval Appraiser at Philadelphia. He was afterward appointed Judge of the Dauphin District. Two of the Judges were promoted to seats on the Supreme Bench of the State. James Thompson was elected one of the Justices of the Supreme Court in 1856, and held the position until 1872, the full term of fifteen years, the last five of which he presided as Chief Justice. Gaylord Church was appointed a Supreme Judge October 25, 1858, to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of one of the members of the court. He retained the place for a brief period only.

The residences of the several Judges have been as follows: Judge Addison, at Pittsburgh; Judges Moore, Shippen, Gaylord Church, Derickson, Lowrie, Pettis and Pearson Church at Meadville; Judges Eldred, Brown and Johnson at Warren; Judges Galbraith and Vincent at Erie. In 1842 Judge Thompson removed from Franklin to Erie, where he resided until a short time after his election as Supreme Judge, when he removed to Philadelphia.

But five of the Judges who have presided at the courts of Crawford County are now living: Judges Brown, Johnson, Vincent, Pettis and Pearson Church.

Judges Addison, Moore, Shippen, Eldred, Thompson, Gaylord Church, Galbraith and Lowrie were Democrats, as are also Judges Rasselas Brown and Pearson Church, while Judge Derickson was a Republican, to which party Judges Johnson, Vincent and Pettis also adhere.

Associate Judges.—Two Associate Judges assisted the President Judge from the organization of the county until the office was abolished by the constitution of 1873, though the judges then in office served out their full terms. The office became elective by the people in 1851. The incumbents of the position were not required to be learned in the law, and in every instance were either substantial farmers or intelligent business men. The following is a list of the Associate Judges of Crawford County, with their terms of service, from its organization until the office was abolished: David Mead, March 13, 1800, to December 20, 1800; John Kelso, March 14, 1800, to September, 1803; William Bell, succeeding Judge Mead (resigned), December 20, 1800, to September, 1803. Upon the organization of Erie County, April 2, 1803, Judges Kelso and Bell, being inside the limits of that county, were succeeded by David Mead and William Clark, in September, 1803. The former served until his death, August 23, 1816, and the latter until the close of 1818. The succeeding Judges were: John Brooks, May 24, 1817, to 1830; James Burchfield, January 16, 1819, to 1830; Stephen Barlow, 1831 to January, 1845; John H. Work, 1831 to March, 1848; John P. Davis, February 10, 1845, to January, 1850; Thomas L. Lowry, April 4, 1848, to November, 1851; John Dick, February 12, 1850 (resigned in October, 1853); Samuel S. Adrain, December, 1851, to November, 1856; Thomas J. Lowry succeeded Judge Dick (resigned) October, 1853, to November, 1858; Thomas VanHorne, December, 1856 (resigned in December, 1857); Kennedy Davis succeeded Judge Van Horne, January, 1858, to November, 1863; James E. Patton, December, 1858, to November, 1863; William Davis, December, 1863, re-elected in October, 1868 and 1873, serving until November, 1878; William S. Crozier, December, 1863, to November, 1868; Edward H. Chase, December, 1868, re-elected in October, 1873, and died before the close of his term.

Deputy Attorney-Generals and District Attorneys.—From 1800 to 1850 this official was known by the title of Deputy Attorney-General, and the incumbents were appointed by the Attorney-General of the State. In 1850 the office was made elective, and the name changed to District Attorney. The following attorneys have filled the office since the organization of the county: Henry Baldwin, 1800 to 1804; Edward Work, 1805 to 1806; William Wallace, of Erie, 1807 to 1808; Patrick Farrelly, 1809 to 1820; Ralph Marlin, 1821; George Selden, 1822 to November, 1823; David Derickson, November, 1823, to 1829; John W. Farrelly, 1830 to 1836; Gaylord Church, 1837 to 1840; William H. Davis, 1841 to 1843; Edward Shippen, 1844 to 1846; J. Porter Brawley, 1847 to 1848; Darwin A. Finney, 1849 to October, 1850; A. B. Richmond, October, 1850, to October, 1853; George W. Hecker, October, 1853, to October, 1856; Henry C. Johnson, October, 1856, to October, 1859; D. C. McCoy, October, 1859, to October, 1862; C. R. Marsh, October, 1862, to October, 1865; Harvey Henderson, October, 1865, to October, 1868; Samuel M. Davis, October, 1868, resigned early in 1869, and Frank P. Ray was appointed to serve until the ensuing October election; J. W. Smith, October, 1869, to October, 1872; John J. Henderson, October, 1872, to December, 1875; L. C. Beatty, January, 1876, to December, 1878; George F. Davenport, January, 1879, to December, 1881; John B. Compton, January, 1882, to December, 1884.

By an act of Congress passed in 1866, Erie, Pittsburgh and Williamsport were fixed upon as the places for the sittings of the United States District and

Circuit Courts for the Western District of Pennsylvania. Previous to 1870 the Circuit Courts were held by a Judge of the United States Supreme Court, or by the District Judge, or by both sitting together. The duties of holding the Circuit Court having become too onerous for the Supreme Judges, an act was passed in 1869 to relieve them by providing Circuit Judges. Cases are appealed from the District to the Circuit Court, and from the latter to the Supreme Court of the United States. The District Judge can hold a Circuit Court, but a Circuit Judge can not hold the District Court. The Supreme Judges, may, if they choose, sit with the Circuit Judge or hold court alone. The only time one of the Judges of the United States was present in Erie, was when Judge Strong was there in July, 1875.

The first session of the District Court was held in Erie in January, 1867, and of the Circuit Court in July, 1868, Judge Wilson McCandless presiding. Both courts were regularly held by him until Hon. William McKennan, of Washington County, was sworn in as Circuit Judge at the January term of 1870. Judge McCandless continued to serve until July 24, 1876, when he was honorably retired on account of advanced years, and was succeeded as District Judge by Hon. Winthrop W. Ketchum, of Luzerne County. Judges McKennan and Ketchum were both sworn in and began their official duties at Erie. The latter died early in 1880, and Hon. M. W. Acheson, of Pittsburgh, was appointed his successor.

Of those who organized the first court of Crawford County in July, 1800, Hon. David Mead, one of the Associate Judges, and the leading spirit in the pioneer settlement on French Creek, will be found fully spoken of in a previous chapter.

Hon. John Kelso, the other Associate, was a pioneer of Erie County, and upon its separate organization in 1803 was appointed Associate Judge of that county, but declined the office. He was thoroughly identified with the early affairs of Erie County, and occupied a prominent place in its civil and military history, being a Brigadier-General of militia in the war of 1812–15.

Hon. Henry Baldwin was a native of New Haven, Conn., and graduated at Yale College in 1797. He read law with Alexander Dallas, of Philadelphia, and was there admitted to practice. Early in the year 1800 he came to Meadville, and assisted in organizing the first court held in the county. Judge Baldwin was twice married, his first wife bearing him one son—Henry—who subsequently located for a brief period at Meadville. On the 11th of June, 1805, our subject was married to Miss Sally Ellicott, a daughter of Andrew Ellicott, Secretary of the Land Office, who at that time was residing with her brother-in-law, Dr. Thomas R. Kennedy, of Meadville, whose widow married John Reynolds, Esq., in 1814. About 1804 Judge Baldwin removed to Pittsburgh, and in 1816 was elected to Congress, serving continuously in that body until 1828, where he signalized himself as the champion of domestic manufactures, being conspicuous as the chairman of that committee. In 1830 he was appointed a Supreme Judge of the United States by President Jackson, with whom he was on the closest terms of friendship, which position he occupied up to the time of his death. In 1842 he returned to Meadville, and the following year erected the residence on the Terrace now the home of the Hon. William Reynolds, and died while at court in Philadelphia in April, 1844. Judge Baldwin was a poor financier, accumulating little of this world's goods; but he was a jovial, generous and high-minded gentleman, an eminent lawyer, a rough but powerful and acute speaker, and was recognized as one of the greatest legal lights of his day.

Edward Work was for many years a resident of Meadville, and the second

Postmaster of the village. He never did much law practice here, and removed to Jamestown, N. Y., where he resided at the time of his death.

Steel Semple, George Armstrong and Thomas Collins were members of the Pittsburgh bar, who rode the circuit in early times. Mr. Semple was a man of stupendous genius, and was regarded by his cotemporaries as a prodigy of eloquence and learning.

Dr. Thomas Ruston Kennedy, the first Prothonotary and Clerk of Courts in Crawford County, deserves mention in this connection. On the 17th of November, 1794, he was appointed Surgeon of Capt. Denny's command, at Fort Le Bœuf, and located at Meadville the following year, being, doubtless, the first physician to settle in northwestern Pennsylvania. He was a gentleman of great energy, and was identified with all of the leading enterprises of his day in this portion of the State. Dr. Kennedy erected mills on the Conewango, in Chautauqua County, N. Y., at the point on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad named "Kennedy," in honor of his public spirit and to perpetuate his memory. He died at Meadville, in March, 1813.

With the exception of the Sheriff, Alexander Stewart, the foregoing embraces all who took part in organizing the first court; but from that time forward the bar of Crawford County gradually increased in members, and always contained some members who stood among the eminent lawyers of northwestern Pennsylvania.

Alexander W. Foster was a prominent and able lawyer who came to Meadville in the summer of 1800, being admitted at this bar October 6 of that year. In 1804 he and Roger Alden were the principals in the only duel ever fought in Crawford County. The meeting took place on the bank of French Creek, about a mile and a half below Meadville, and Maj. Alden was wounded in the encounter. Mr. Foster subsequently removed to Pittsburgh, where he occupied a leading position in the legal profession.

Col. Ralph Marlin came to Meadville from central Pennsylvania in the spring of 1801, having been a practicing attorney ere settling in this town. Soon after the war of 1812–15 broke out he received a Major's commission in the regular army, and was at Erie during the building of Perry's fleet in 1813. With the close of the war he returned to Meadville; served in the Legislature from 1815 to 1818, but with the passing years became somewhat dissipated, and about 1826 removed to one of the counties east of the Allegheny River.

Hon. Patrick Farrelly was a native of Ireland, where he was also educated. Coming to America in 1798, he began his law studies at Lancaster, Penn.; in 1802 removed to Meadville, and was admitted to practice July 11, 1803. On the 15th of July, 1805, he was appointed as Register and Recorder of Crawford County, and on the 22d of August following, Clerk of the Orphans' Court. Mr. Farrelly was married to Elizabeth Mead, a daughter of Gen. David Mead, in June, 1806, of which union two sons were born: David M. and John W., the former of whom is yet living. His wife died July 14, 1811, and on the 25th of March, 1819, he married Martha Wright Alden, a daughter of Rev. Timothy Alden, the founder and first President of Allegheny College. One son—Patrick—was the fruit of this marriage, who graduated at Allegheny College, served through the Mexican war, and was killed by being thrown from his horse, near Fort Wachita, in 1852. After serving as Major of militia in the war of 1812–15, and serving one term in the Legislature, to which he was chosen in 1811, Mr. Farrelly, in 1820, was elected to Congress, and re-elected twice in succession, dying at Pittsburgh February 12, 1826, while on his way to Washington, D. C., aged fifty-six years. He was interred in the Catholic ceme-

tery at Pittsburgh, in which faith he lived and died. After settling at Meadville he gradually built up a large law practice in Crawford and surrounding counties, without doubt the largest of any lawyer in this portion of the commonwealth. There was, perhaps, no man in northwestern Pennsylvania, at the time of his death, who wielded a more powerful influence in the political affairs of the State than Hon. Patrick Farrelly. Possessing a brilliant mind, a fine, classical education, and high legal abilities, and being a clear, graceful, fluent writer, and a good, forcible speaker, having always at his tongue's end an abundance of Irish wit, he was regarded, during his congressional career, as one of the leading members of the United States House of Representatives.

Hon. Jesse Moore was a native of Montgomery County, Penn., and while practicing law at Sunbury, Penn., was appointed President Judge of the Sixth Judicial District, his commission bearing date April 5, 1803. He immediately came to Meadville to assume the duties of the position, which he occupied until his death, December 21, 1824, in the fifty-ninth year of his age. Judge Moore was a well educated man, a diligent student and a good lawyer, sound, upright and impartial in his judicial opinions and decisions, and at all times sustained the honor and dignity of the profession. On the 1st of November, 1817, he married Mrs. Anna Dick, the widow of William Dick, a pioneer of Meadville.

Col. Richard Bean was also for a time a leading member of the early bar. He died at Meadville about 1824.

R. L. Potter was one of the pioneer lawyers, and for many years the leading Justice of the Peace in Meadville. He was prominently identified with early improvements of the town, and was also one of the first to suggest the introduction of the stern-wheel in steamboats.

George Selden read law in Philadelphia with Hon. Horace Binney, was admitted to practice in 1817, and in 1819 came to Meadville, where, the following year, he married a daughter of Jared Shattuck. He was a shrewd lawyer, and a good advocate; but being engaged in several kinds of business, did not attend very closely to his law practice, and therefore was not so successful as he might otherwise have been. About 1830 he removed to Pittsburgh, but returned to Meadville in 1835, where he died a few weeks after his return.

Hon. John B. Wallace was a native of New Jersey, where he read law with his uncle, Hon. John Bradford, at one time Attorney-General of the United States. He thence removed to Philadelphia, and married a sister of Hon. Horace Binney, of that city. After practicing in Philadelphia until 1821, he removed to Meadville, Penn., and lived on the site of Judge David Derickson's residence. Mr. Wallace was a large, fine-looking man, a gentleman of the old school, a strong, vigorous thinker, and an eloquent, magnetic speaker. He was a very able lawyer, and became eminent in the profession, being the attorney of the Holland Land Company for several years. Mr. Wallace served in the Legislature from 1831 to 1834, and took a deep interest in beautifying the town by planting trees around the Diamond. In the spring of 1835 he returned to Philadelphia, and there died.

Hon. David Derickson was born in Cumberland (now Perry) County, Penn., August 28, 1798, came to Meadville in 1818, and graduated at Allegheny College in 1821; being now, July, 1884, the only survivor of the first graduating class of that institution. His law studies were prosecuted under the preceptorship of George Selden, Esq., and Hon. John B. Wallace, and in November, 1823, he was admitted to practice. Within three months of his admission to the bar he was appointed Deputy Attorney-General for the district composed of the counties of Crawford, Venango and Warren, serving in that capacity

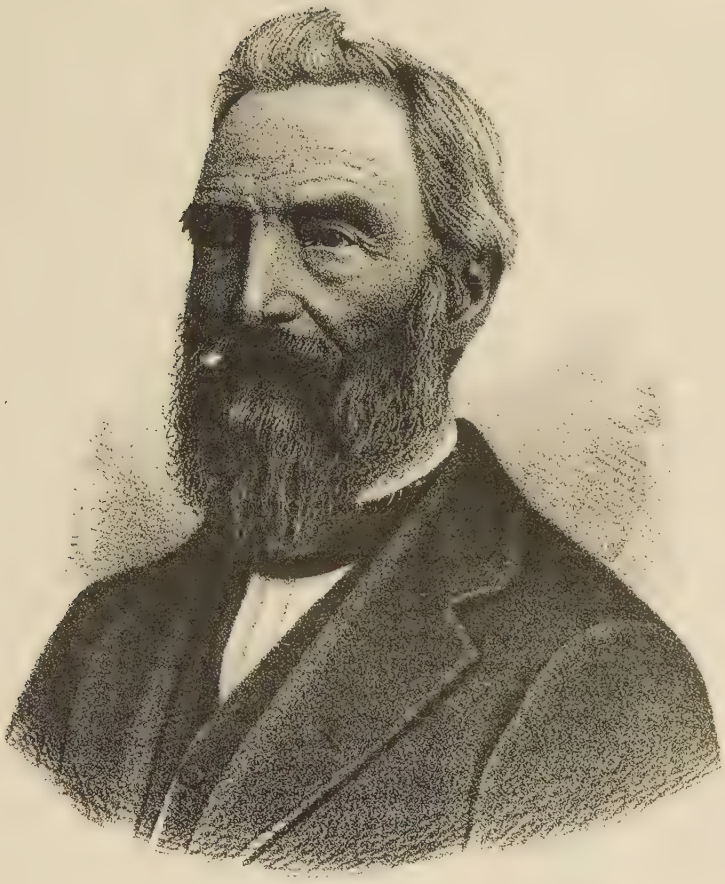
some five or six years, and in 1824 President Monroe appointed him Collector of Internal Revenue for the same district. The duties of the former office brought him in contact with the people, and this assisted him in building up a practice, while collision at the bar with the leading attorneys of several counties did much toward advancing his knowledge of the law. He married Harriet Patch, a daughter of Capt. Richard Patch, January 1, 1821. Judge Derickson was diligently engaged in the successful prosecution of his profession until the fall of 1856, when he was elected Additional Law Judge for the district composed of Crawford, Erie and Warren Counties, and served on the bench the full term of ten years. During his professional career Judge Derickson turned out a greater number of students than any lawyer that has ever lived in Meadville, and many of them have become prominent in the profession. Few men at the bar could boast of a more thorough knowledge of the law than Judge Derickson. Possessing a shrewd, well-balanced, judicial mind, and being an indefatigable student and logical reasoner, he could readily tear away from a case the plausible sophistries woven around it by a more brilliant lawyer, exposing the weak points in the argument, and thus destroying its effect upon the jury. He was recognized as a good, efficient Judge, whose charges were noted for impartiality, and while suave and courteous at all times was unswerving in the performance of his duty. In 1878 he retired from the active duties of his profession, and at the commencement of Allegheny College in 1884, the degree of LL. D. was conferred upon this venerable jurist, who now, approaching the ripe old age of eighty-six, with body and mind still vigorous for his years, calmly awaits the call to that higher court from whose decisions there are no appeal.*

John Stuart Riddle came from Chambersburg, Penn., to Meadville about 1824, having read law in his father's office. He possessed a good mind, was a diligent student and a practical, safe lawyer. He was also a successful land speculator, and accumulated considerable wealth, dying at Philadelphia while on a visit, about 1850.

Hon. Henry Shippen was born in Lancaster, Penn., December 28, 1788, and graduated from Dickinson College in 1808. He read law in the office of Judge Hopkins, of Lancaster, and in due time was admitted to the bar. In September, 1812, he was commissioned Captain of the Lancaster Yagers, James Buchanan, who was elected President of the United States in 1856, being a private in the company. After his service in the war of 1812–15 closed, he diligently prosecuted the duties of his profession at Lancaster, where he built up a successful practice. On the 1st of May, 1817, he married Elizabeth Wallis Evans, of Lancaster County, who bore him nine children, two of whom, Evans W. and Mrs. Edgar Huidekoper, reside in Meadville He removed from Lancaster to Huntingdon, Penn., where he followed his profession until appointed, January 24, 1825, President Judge of the Judicial District, then composed of Crawford, Erie, Venango and Mercer Counties. Judge Shippen presided over the courts of this district until his death, March 2, 1839. He was recognized as a man of good mind and strong common sense. While on the bench Judge Shippen displayed those legal qualities which distinguished the able lawyer and thorough jurist, his charges and decisions being models of integrity, and though high tempered he was uniformly kind and courteous to the bar.

Samuel Miles Green came from Bellefont, Penn., about 1825, where he had read law and been admitted to practice. He was a man of strong com-

*Judge Derickson has since died, his death occurring August 13, 1884.



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mon sense, a fair lawyer and a good speaker, but not succeeding as well as he had anticipated, he returned to his early home about 1834.

Henry Baldwin, Jr., read law in his father's office in Pittsburgh, and came to Meadville about 1826. He was very gentlemanly in character and possessed the ability to become a fine lawyer, but after a couple of years at this bar he removed to Tennessee, thence accepted a position in the Patent Office at Washington, D. C., where he died, leaving two sons.

Hon. John W. Farrelly was born in Meadville, in 1809, and graduated from Allegheny College. He read law under Hons. John B. Wallace and David Derickson, and was admitted to the bar in June, 1828. He soon took a leading position among his professional cotemporaries, and rapidly obtained a large and lucrative practice. In 1837 he was elected to the Legislature, in 1842 to the State Senate and in 1846 to Congress, serving one term in each. In 1849 he was appointed by President Taylor Sixth Auditor in the Treasury Department at Washington, D. C., in which position he served four years Mr. Farrelly possessed a discriminating, technical mind, was clear in his ideas and very correct and logical in his conclusions, and was regarded as one of the eminent lawyers of Pennsylvania. For many years he suffered from asthmatic troubles, and died in December, 1860, leaving a wife and three children to mourn his loss. John B. Wallace once said to Judge Derickson: "I consider John W. Farrelly the finest lawyer between Meadville and Philadelphia;" which alone shows the high estimation in which he was held by those who knew him best.

David M. Farrelly is older than John W., his birth occurring in Meadville, in 1807. He is also a graduate of Allegheny College, and one of Judge Derickson's students, and was admitted to practice February 9, 1830. In 1829 he was elected Register and Recorder of Crawford County, and served one term, and he was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1837–38. Mr. Farrelly is the second-oldest living attorney of the Crawford County bar, having been in practice for more than half a century, and has always been regarded as a fine scholar, a well-read lawyer, a forcible speaker, and an upright, honorable man.

C. B. Powers was one of the old pioneer attorneys of Crawford County, coming to Meadville in 1829–30. He was a very correct man, of good education, and a fair lawyer. For several years he was a partner of John W. Farrelly, but finally removed to a farm west of Conneautville, and followed agricultural pursuits until his death.

Hon. Gaylord Church was a native of Oswego, N. Y., born August 11, 1811, and removed with his parents to Mercer County, Penn., in 1816. He attended the Mercer Academy, studied law in the office of the Hon. John J. Pearson, of Mercer, and was admitted to practice in 1834, coming to Meadville the same year. In 1837 he was appointed Deputy Attorney-General of the Crawford County District, and in 1840 was elected to the Legislature and re-elected to the same position. He was appointed President Judge of the Sixth Judicial District in 1843, and served until October, 1851, when the office became elective. Judge Church studiously applied himself to the prosecution of his profession until October 25, 1858, when he was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Bench of the Commonwealth, which he occupied only a short time. Judge Church was an excellent lawyer and made an efficient Judge, as he was thoroughly versed in the law. He died September 29, 1869, leaving a wife and seven children, the eldest of whom, Pearson, was elected President Judge of the Thirtieth Judicial District in 1877, and is now on the bench.

Hon. Hiram L. Richmond, who, excepting Mr. Farrelly, is the oldest active practitioner of the Crawford County bar, was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., May 17, 1810. In 1834 he removed with his father, Dr. Lawton Richmond, to Crawford County, and spent two years in Allegheny College, having previously received a good academic education in his native county, and studied medicine some two years in his father's office. In 1836 he began to read law under the Hon. David Derickson, in the same office which he himself now occupies, and was admitted to practice in February, 1838. The following April he opened an office in Meadville and gradually grew into an extensive and lucrative practice, which through the passing years increased with the growth and prosperity of the county. In December, 1838, he was married to Maria P. Shryock, a daughter of Col. Daniel Shryock, one of the pioneers of the county, and ten years afterward purchased the home of his old preceptor, which he has occupied for the past thirty-six years. There are few citizens of Crawford County more widely known than this venerable lawyer, who has passed two-thirds of his life in their midst. He was always regarded as a fine stump speaker, and in 1872 was elected to Congress, receiving the largest majority ever given by the district. Mr. Richmond is a fluent, graceful talker, a hard student and a good lawyer, especially as an advocate, being noted for the thorough manner in which he prepares his cases before taking them into court. Though now in his seventy-fifth year, he is still actively engaged in the duties of his profession, and is kindly regarded by the bar of which he has been so long a leading member.

William H. Davis was a native of Meadville, here educated, and read law in the office of John Stuart Riddle. He was admitted to practice in February, 1838, on the day succeeding the admission of Hiram L. Richmond, Sr. He possessed a determined character and great tenacity of purpose, was a man of fine education and a good lawyer, but fell before the demon of intemperance. Mr. Davis was of a literary turn of mind, and in 1848, gave a lecture on the history of Crawford County, which contained much information of early events in this locality. On the breaking out of the Rebellion he entered the army, and soon after the war closed removed to Illinois and there died.

Hon. Darwin A. Finney was born in Vermont in 1814, came to Meadville about 1840, graduatad from Allegheny College, and read law in the office of Hon. Hiram L. Richmond. "He was," says Judge Derickson, "a very able lawyer, and had the finest analytical mind of any man whom I knew at the bar." He served in the State Senate from 1856 to 1861; and in 1866 was elected to Congress, but before the expiration of his Congressional term he went to Europe to try and recuperate his health, and there died in 1868. Hot-headed and irascible in temperament, he was withal kind-hearted and generous, and had many friends among the legal fraternity who regarded him as an ornament to the profession.

Present Bar.—The following is a list of the attorneys of Crawford County who are now in active practice with residence at Meadville: Arthur L. Bates, F. L. Blackmarr, W. R. Bole, C. M. Boush, J. B. Brawley, Thomas N. Brooks, Pearson Church, A. G. Church, John B. Compton, George F. Davenport, M. P. Davis, A. S. Davis, Fredrick H. Davis, J. F. Dorrance, James Doughty, Joshua Douglass, D. M. Farrelly, E. B. Flower, R. C. Frey, Norton L. Gleason, Robert G. Graham, P. F. Hallock, G. W. Hecker, John J. Henderson, H. J. Humes, L. H. Lauderbaugh, Emmett McArthur, John O. McClintock, J. N. McCloskey, D. C. McCoy, John D. McCoy, S. N. Pettis, B. B. Pickett, M. C. Powers, F. P. Ray, Roe Reisinger, H. L. Richmond, A. B. Richmond, H L. Richmond, Jr., A. G. Richmond, James E. Roberts, W. R. Scott, J. W. Smith, C. W. Tyler, Cornelius VanHorne, Lewis Walker.

Those residing in Titusville are: Julius Byles, G. A. Chase, W. M. Dame, Samuel Grumbine, F. B. Guthrie, M. J. Heywang, Samuel Minor, F. L. Seeley, Roger Sherman, L. W. Wilcox, J. Willis Witherop.

Conneautville—A. J. Harper.

Linesville—R. P. Miller, James D. Bowman, M. A. Gilson.

Cochranton—J. W. Spear.

Centerville—Charles M. Wood.

Bloomfield Township—H. E. Rossell.

Randolph Township—David T. McKay.

Athens Township—James D. Minnis.

Resident attorneys of Meadville, Titusville and vicinity not in practice: G. B. Delamater, G. W. Delamater, W. H. Doughty, George W. Haskins, Alfred Huidekoper, J. A. Neill, William Reynolds, Thomas Van Horne.

Attorneys who died while members of the bar of Crawford County: W. H. Addle, J. H. Baker, Richard Bean, J. Porter Brawley, Gaylord Church, Arthur Cullum, David Derickson, Charles A. Derickson, Clark Ewing, Charles Faber, Patrick Farrelly, John W. Farrelly, John W. Farrelly, Jr., Darwin A. Finney, Charles B. Guthrie, John W. Howe, John W. Hunter, Thomas Ruston Kennedy, Walter H. Lowrie, C. R. Marsh, B. F. McAllister, Jesse Moore, William S. Morris, Joseph Morrison, R. L. Potter, John Reynolds, H. M. Richmond, J. Stuart Riddle, George Selden, Henry Shippen, Henry Shippen, Jr., William D. Tucker, Charles L. Wescott, James B. White.

CHAPTER XIV.

OFFICIAL ROSTER—MEMBERS OF CONGRESS—STATE SENATORS—STATE REPRESENTATIVES—PROTHONOTARIES—CLERKS—REGISTERS AND RECORDERS—SHERIFFS—COMMISSIONERS—TREASURERS—SURVEYORS—CORONERS—COUNTY BUILDINGS AND COUNTY FARM—THE OLD STATE ARSENAL.

AFTER much labor and re-search among the musty records of by-gone days, we have carefully compiled the following roster of the officials of Crawford County since its organization. The only members of Congress which we thought necessary to give in this connection, are those who were citizens of the county when chosen to represent the district. The lists of State Senators and Representatives were furnished us from the official records, through the kindness of Joshua Douglass, Esq., by Mr. George B. Leeper, a former citizen of Meadville, now in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, at Harrisburg. The commission record of the county is missing from 1818 to 1838, a period of about twenty years, and in the case of Coroner no reliable source is left from which to obtain the necessary information to fill up the gap thus created. Though the missing names of the other officials have been supplied under great difficulties, because of the loose manner in which the early records were kept, nevertheless we feel confident that excepting the Coroners from 1827 to 1836, the roster may be relied upon as a correct summary of official life in Crawford County for the past eighty-four years. None who peruse it can conceive the amount of laborious re-search it has involved, and few will believe, without experience, what difficulties lie in the way of getting authentic knowledge on many of the most important events in the county's history.*

*For Associate Judges and District Attorneys, see Chapter XIII.

Members of Congress.—Patrick Farrelly, 1820 (died while serving in February, 1826); Stephen Barlow, 1826 to 1828; John W. Farrelly, 1846 to 1848; John Dick, 1852 to 1858; Darwin A. Finney, 1866 (died in office in 1868); S. Newton Pettis, elected in 1868 to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Finney's death; Hiram L. Richmond, 1872 to 1874; Samuel B. Dick, 1878 to 1880.

State Senators.— (District, Allegheny, Crawford and all northwestern Pennsylvania), John Hamilton, 1800 to 1801; (district changed to Crawford, Erie, Mercer, Venango and Warren); William M. Arthur, 1801 to 1809; Wilson Smith, 1809 to 1813; Joseph Shannon, 1813 to 1816; Henry Hurst, 1816 to 1821; Jacob Herrington, 1821 to 1825; (district changed in 1823 to Crawford, Erie and Mercer); John Leech, 1825 to 1829; Thomas S. Cunningham, 1829 to 1837; (district changed to Crawford and Erie); Joseph M. Sterrett, 1837 to 1841; John W. Farrelly, 1842 to 1844; (district changed to Crawford and Venango); James P. Hoover, 1845 to 1847; J. Porter Brawley, 1848 to 1850; (district changed to Crawford and Erie); John H. Walker, 1851 to 1852; James S. Skinner, 1853 to 1855; Darwin A. Finney, 1856 to 1861; Morrow B. Lowry, 1862 to 1870; George B. Delamater, 1871 to 1873; (district changed to Crawford); George K. Anderson, 1874 to 1876; John Fertig, 1877 to 1879; W. B. Roberts, 1880 to 1882; Homer J. Humes, 1883 to 1885.

State Representatives.—(district, Allegheny, Crawford, and all northwestern Pennsylvania), Samuel Ewalt and Thomas Morton, 1800 to 1801; (district changed to Crawford, Erie, Mercer, Venango and Warren); Alexander Buchanan, 1801 to 1802; John Lytle, Jr., 1802 to 1805; (district changed in 1806 to Crawford and Mercer); Wilson Smith, 1805 to 1808; (district changed to Crawford, Erie and Warren); John Phillips and James Herrington, 1808 to 1809; John Phillips and Roger Alden, 1809 to 1811; John Phillips and Patrick Farrelly, 1811 to 1813; James Weston and James Burchfield, 1813 to 1815; (district changed to Crawford, Erie, Mercer, Venango and Warren); Jacob Herrington, James Weston and Ralph Marlin, 1815 to 1816; Samuel Hays, Ralph Marlin and Jacob Herrington, 1816 to 1817; Samuel Hays, Thomas Wilson and Ralph Marlin, 1817 to 1818; Jacob Herrington, James Cochran and Joseph Hackney, 1818 to 1819; Wilson Smith, James Cochran and William Connelly, 1819 to 1820; Jacob Herrington, Wilson Smith and William Connelly, 1820 to 1821; David Brown, James Cochran and George Moore, 1821 to 1822; (district changed to Crawford and and Venango); James Cochran, 1822 to 1823; Samuel Hays, 1823 to 1825; William Foster, 1825 to 1826; Thomas Atkinson, 1826 to 1827; George R. Espy, 1827 to 1828; John Galbraith, 1828 to 1829; (district changed to Crawford); Stephan Barlow, 1829 to 1831; John B. Wallace, 1831 to 1834; Hugh Brawley, 1834 to 1835; Thomas Atkinson, 1835 to 1836; James Beatty and Hugh Brawley, 1836 to 1837; Luther M. Chamberlain and John W. Farrelly, 1837 to 1838; Jacob Work and Joseph Douglass, 1838 to 1839; Gaylord Church and James Henry, 1840; Joseph Douglass and Gaylord Church, 1841; Morrow B. Lowry and J. Porter Brawley, 1842 to 1843; W. P. Shattuck and J. R. Kerr, 1844; Alexander Power and Joseph Gray, 1845 to 1846; Solomon G. Krick and James K. Kerr, 1847 to 1848; James Porter and D. M. Bole, 1849; B. G. David and Anson Leonard, 1850; Thomas Van Horne and Joseph Patton, 1851; George Merriman and Ranson Kingsley, 1852 to 1853; William H. Davis and Jesse Smith, 1854; A. B. Ross and Howell Powell, 1855; Leonard Reed and Joseph Brown, 1856 to 1857; (district changed to Crawford and Warren); Thomas Struthers and Robert P. Miller, 1858; Robert P. Miller and Henry R. Rouse, 1859; Henry R. Rouse and Hiram Butler, 1860; Hiram Butler and E. Cowan, 1861; E. Cowan and S. S. Bates, 1862;

H. C. Johnson and W. D. Brown, 1863 to 1864; (district changed to Crawford); J. C. Sturtevant and George H. Bemus, 1865 to 1866; J. T. Chase and J. Boyd Espy, 1867; J. Boyd Espy and William Beatty, 1868; William Beatty and F. W. Ames, 1869; F. W. Ames and Henry C. Johnson, 1870; J. H. Gray and D. D. Williams, 1871; J. H. Gray and W. B. Gleason, 1872; Frederick P. Bates and M. W. Oliver, 1873 to 1874; S. H. Findley, W. C. Plummer, R. H. Sturtevant and S. J. Logan, 1875 to 1876; S. H. Findley, W. B. Roberts, C. W. Tyler and O. O. Potter, 1877; S. H. Findley, W. B. Roberts, O. O. Potter and James A. Stone, 1878; David Emery, H. D. Lowing, Paul Blackmer and L. W. Thickstun, 1879 to 1880; H. D. Lowing, C. W. Tyler, D. V. Derickson and S. H. Wilson, 1881 to 1882; F. W. Ellsworth, J. J. McCrum, Isaac Nelson and S. Slocum, 1883 to 1884.

Prothonotaries.—Thomas R. Kennedy, March 13, 1800, to March, 1809; William McArthur, April 4, 1809, to February, 1821; R. B. W. Wood, February, 1821, to February, 1822; Daniel Le Fevre, March 19, 1822, to February, 1824; James Cochran, February, 1824, to 1829; Edward A. Reynolds, 1830, to October, 1833; James Cochran, November, 1833, to December, 1838; John P. Davis, January, 1839, to November, 1842; William McArthur, December, 1842, to November, 1845; James E. McFarland, December, 1845, to November, 1848; F. F. A. Wilson, December, 1848, to November, 1851; Joseph Brown, December, 1851, to November, 1854; William Hope, December, 1854, to November, 1857; Henry B. Beatty, December, 1857, to November, 1860; Joseph T. Chase, December, 1860, to November, 1863; John B. Compton, December, 1863, to November, 1866; William F. Chalfant, December, 1866, to November, 1869; Henry B. Brooks, December, 1869, to November, 1872; John F. Morris, December, 1872, to December, 1875; A. J. McQuiston, January, 1876, to December, 1878; William S. Rose, January, 1879, to December, 1884.

Clerks.—William Moore, March 13, 1800, to March, 1809; William McArthur, April 4, 1809, to February, 1821; R. B. W. Wood, February, 1821, to February, 1822; Daniel Le Fevre, March, 1822, to February, 1824; James Cochran, February, 1824, to December, 1829; Edward A. Reynolds, January, 1830, to October, 1833; James Cochran, November, 1833, to December, 1838; John P. Davis, January, 1839, to November, 1842; William McArthur, December, 1842, to November, 1845; James E. McFarland, December, 1845, to November, 1848; William McLaughlin, December, 1848, to November, 1851; Walter L. Brackenridge, December, 1851, to November, 1854; William M. Barron, December, 1854, to November, 1857; S. J. Johnston, December, 1857, to November, 1860; William Beatty, December, 1860, to November, 1863; O. H. Hollister, December, 1863, to November, 1869; A. J. McQuiston, December, 1869, to December, 1875; Charles T. Shaw, January, 1876, to December, 1881; James Graham, January, 1882, to December, 1884.

Registers and Recorders.—William Moore, March 13, 1800, to August, 1805; Patrick Farrelly, August 21, 1805, to February, 1809; Robert Findley, February 15, 1809, to July, 1810; Jacob Herrington, July 10, 1810, to January, 1812; William McArthur, January 25, 1812, to December, 1820; Roger Alden, January, 1821, to February, 1825; James Cochran, February 28, 1825, to February, 1830; David M. Farrelly, February, 1830, to February, 1833; W. W. White, February, 1833, to February, 1836; George Le Fevre, February, 1836, to February, 1839; Henry B. Beatty, February, 1839, to November, 1842; James Foster, December, 1842, to November 1845; William McLaughlin, December, 1845, to November, 1848; J. W. Lang, December, 1848, to November, 1851; John H. Culbertson, December, 1851, to December, 1854;

A. S. Davis, December, 1854, to November, 1857; B. B. Cummings, December, 1857, to November, 1860; Cyrus Kitchen, December, 1860, to November, 1863; John F. Morris, December, 1863, to November, 1866; David S. Keep, December, 1866, to November, 1869; A. M. Smith, December, 1869, to November, 1872; William F. Dickson, December, 1872, to December, 1878; Robert Andrews, January, 1879, to December, 1881; N. B. Hofford, January, 1882, to December, 1884.

Sheriffs.—Alexander Stewart, July, 1800, to October, 1803; Chambers Foster, October 19, 1803, to November, 1803; James Quigley, November 15, 1803, to October, 1806; Henry Hurst, October 20, 1806, to November, 1809; James Burchfield, November 14, 1809, to November, 1812; Henry Hurst, November 10, 1812, to November, 1815; Samuel Torbett, November 24, 1815, to November, 1818; Hugh Brawley, November 26, 1818, to October, 1821; Samuel Withrow, November, 1821, died in summer of 1824, the Coroner, David McFadden, serving out the term; Hugh Brawley, November, 1824, to October, 1827; David McFadden, November, 1827, to October, 1830; Andrew Smith, November, 1830, to October, 1833; David McFadden, November, 1833, to October, 1836; George Henry, November, 1836, to October, 1839; James Porter, October, 1839, to October, 1842; John H. Mattocks, October, 1842, to October, 1845; Samuel B. Long, October, 1845, to October, 1848; Charles F. Adams, October, 1848, to October, 1851; John C. C. Brooks, October, 1851, to October, 1854; Andrew L. Smith, October, 1854, to October, 1857; William Hurst, October, 1857, to October, 1860; F. Shattuck, October, 1860, to October, 1863; S. J. Krick, October, 1863, to October, 1866; Fred C. Peck, October, 1866, to October, 1869; F. W. Ellsworth, October, 1869, to October, 1872; Orlondo Reed, October, 1872, to December, 1875; George P. Ryan, January, 1876, to December, 1878; Andrew G. Apple, January, 1879, to December, 1881; David R. Herron, January, 1882, to December, 1884.

Commissioners.—William Clark, October, 1800, to October, 1801; Joseph Hackney, October, 1800, to October, 1802; James Lowry, October, 1800, to October, 1803; William Clark, October, 1801, to October, 1804; Henry Hurst, October, 1802, to October, 1805; James Burchfield, October, 1803, to October, 1806; Randolph Freeman, October, 1804, to October, 1807; John Limber, October, 1805, to October, 1808; James Quigley, October, 1806, to October, 1809; Joseph Andrews, October, 1807, died in the spring of 1809, and John W. Hunter was appointed in April to serve until the following October election; David Cormack, October, 1808, to October, 1811; Samuel Fisher, October, 1809, to October, 1810; George Long, October, 1809, to October, 1812; Thomas Atkinson, October, 1810, to October, 1813; Joseph Hackney, October, 1811, to October, 1814; David Acheson, October, 1812, to October, 1815; James Herriott, October, 1813, to October, 1816; James Cochran, appointed in July, 1814, *vice* Hackney, resigned, and elected in October, 1814, to October, 1817; Samuel Lord, October, 1815, to October, 1818; William Foster, October, 1816, to October, 1819; George Long, October, 1817, to October, 1820; Samuel Derickson, October, 1818, to October, 1821; Finlaw Beatty, October, 1819, to October, 1822; William Henry, October, 1820, to October, 1823; Cornelius Van Horne, October, 1821, to October, 1824; James Brawley, October, 1822, to October 1825; David Nelson, October, 1823, to October, 1826; John McClure, October, 1824, to October, 1827; Adam Le Fevre, October, 1825, to October, 1828; Finlaw Beatty, October, 1826, to October, 1829; Roswell Sexton, October, 1827, to October, 1830; Joseph Patterson, October, 1828, to October, 1831; Joseph Patten, October, 1829, to October, 1832; Samuel Lord, October, 1830, to October, 1833;

Adam Le Fevre, October, 1831, to October, 1834; George Long, October, 1832, to October, 1835; Samuel S. Adrain, October, 1833, to October, 1836; James Henry, October, 1834, to October, 1837; Jesse Rupp, October, 1835, to October, 1838; Arthur Johnson, October, 1836, to October, 1839; Edward A. Reynolds, October, 1837, to October, 1840; Ransom Kingsley, October, 1838, to October, 1841; Robert Martin, October, 1839, to October, 1842; Walter Denny, October, 1840, to October, 1843; Daniel Grubb, October, 1841, to October, 1844; Daniel Marshall, October, 1842, to October, 1845; Samuel Forker, October, 1843, to October, 1846; John McMichael, October, 1844, to October, 1847; Joseph Patton, October, 1845, to October, 1848; Justin Dewey, October, 1846, to October, 1849; William Burchfield, October, 1847, to October, 1850; Andrew Ryan, October, 1848, to October, 1851; James Foster, October, 1849, to October, 1852; J. L. Henry, October, 1850, to October 1853; James D. McIntire, October, 1851, to October, 1854; Nicholas Snyder, October, 1852, to October, 1855; John Shauberger, October, 1853, to October, 1856; David Nelson, October, 1854, to October, 1857; Joseph McArthur, October, 1855, to October, 1858; John McNamara, October, 1856, to October, 1859; William Hotchkiss, October, 1857, to October, 1860; Benjamin Bennett, October, 1858, to October, 1861; H. Weatherbee, October, 1859, to October, 1862; Theron Beard, October, 1860, to October, 1863; Isaiah Lane, October, 1861, died in office and was succeeded by William Warner, appointed January 19, 1863, to October, 1864; Joseph Scowden, October, 1862, to October, 1865; Scott A. Marshall, October, 1863, to October, 1866; William Warner, October, 1864, to October, 1867; Benjamin G. David, October, 1865, to October, 1868; Jeremiah Baker, October, 1866, to October, 1869; John M. Calvin, October, 1867, to October, 1870; James L. Beatty, October, 1868, to October, 1871; D. A. Bennett, October, 1869, to October, 1872; Henry Shaffer, October, 1870, to October, 1873; Titus Ridgeway, October, 1871, to October, 1874; G. W. Watson, October, 1872, to December, 1875; J. B. Gerow, October, 1873, to December, 1875; Edward A. Reynolds, November, 1874, to December, 1875; Joseph Patton, George W. Congdon and Joseph Scowden, January, 1876, to December, 1878; Joseph Scowden, William J. Kerr and James Jamison, January, 1879, to December, 1881; William J. Kerr, Scott A. Marshall and Hiram Davis, January, 1882, to December, 1884.

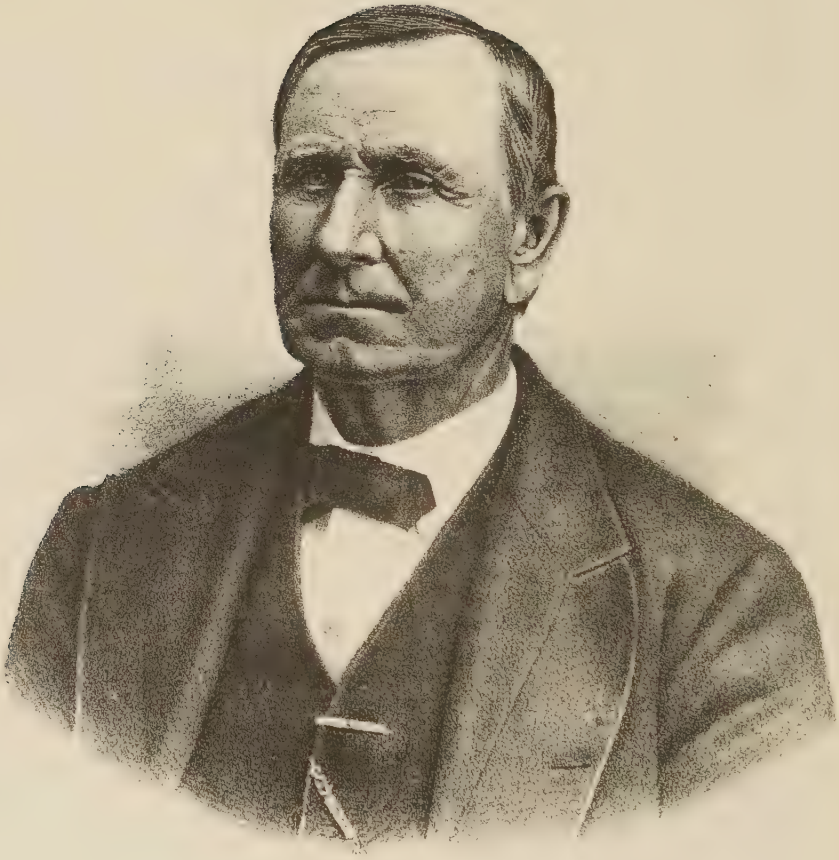
Treasurers.—William McArthur, October, 1800, to July, 1802; John Patterson, July 12, 1802, to 1808; Moses Scott, 1809, to March, 1811; John Brooks, April 10, 1811, to March, 1813; Patrick Farrelly, April, 1813, to March, 1816; Roger Alden, April, 1816, to 1819; Thomas Atkinson, 1820 to July, 1822; John H. Work, August, 1822, to April, 1825; John P. Davis, May 9, 1825, to 1827; Joseph Douglass, 1828 to 1830; Joseph Morrison, 1831 to 1833; Daniel Shryock, 1834 to 1835; William Kerr, 1836 to 1837; Joseph Derickson, 1838; William McLaughlin, 1839; Andrew Smith, 1840 to 1841; John Radle, 1842 to 1843; John E. Smith, 1844 to 1845; Abraham Holmes, 1846 to 1847; James A. McFadden; 1848 to 1849; William Davis, Jr., 1850 to 1851; James W. Douglass, 1852 to 1853; John Gelvin, 1854 to 1855; George Hamilton, 1856 to 1857; Joseph C. Hays, 1858 to 1859; George L. Smull, 1860 to 1861; Jesse Smith, 1862 to 1863; James G. Foster, 1864 to 1865; Andrew J. McQuiston, 1866 to 1867; John Adams, 1868 to 1869; L. L. Lamb, 1870 to 1871; L. H. Metcalf, 1872, died in office, and O. A. Hotchkiss appointed in March, 1873, to fill vacancy; B. F. Stebbins, 1874 to 1875; James G. Foster, 1876 to 1878; William Nash, 1879 to 1881; Lawrence Coyle, 1882 to 1884.

Surveyors.—William McArthur, April 25, 1800, to April, 1806; James

Miller, May 2, 1806, to March, 1809; Jacob Herrington, April 4, 1809, to May, 1812; James Herrington, June 19, 1812, to June, 1821; Ebenezer Felton, July, 1821, to July, 1824; James Herrington, July 26, 1824, to December, 1829; Ebenezer Felton, January, 1830, to May, 1839; Henry H. Laughlin, June 11, 1839, to January, 1845; F. F. A. Wilson, February 21, 1845, to February, 1849; A. W. Mumford, March 24, 1849, to October, 1853; James McDowell, October, 1853, to October, 1856; John Lynch, October, 1856, to October, 1859; James Tryon, October, 1859, to October, 1865; T. W. White, October, 1865, to October, 1869; Thomas Van Horne, October, 1869, to October, 1872; Frank R. Young, October, 1872, to December, 1883; Frank V. Mallory, January, 1884, to December, 1886.

Coroners.—James Quigley, April 14, 1801, to October, 1803; Bartholomew White, November 15, 1803, to October, 1806; Patrick McGill, October 20, 1806, to October, 1809; John Daniels, November 18, 1809, to October, 1812; Hugh Brawley, November 7, 1812, to October, 1815; Francis Porter, October 26, 1815, to February, 1818: Samuel Gebr, February 25, 1818, to October, 1821; David McFadden, November, 1821, to October, 1824; Connor Clark, November, 1824, to October, 1827; the succeeding nine years are missing from the records; James Porter, October, 1836, to October, 1839; William Porter, October, 1839, to October, 1842; John Grier, October, 1842, to October, 1845; James N. Wade, October, 1845, to October, 1848; Alexander Hickernell, October, 1848, to October, 1851; J. L. Parks, October, 1851, to October, 1854; O. F. Bush, October, 1854, to October, 1857; Esack Jones, October, 1857, to October, 1860; David Compton, October, 1860, to October, 1863; A. M. Gorton, October, 1863, to October, 1869; Thomas E. Curtis, October, 1869, to October, 1872; A. M. Gorton, October, 1872, to December, 1875; Simon Strouse, January, 1876, to December, 1884.

County Buildings and County Farm.—For the first five years after the county was organized the buildings on Water Street, previously mentioned, were rented, repaired and utilized for county purposes; but on the 5th of March, 1804, the Legislature passed an act ordering the Commissioners of Crawford County, as soon as convenient, to "erect the court house and public offices for said county, upon the piece of ground in the town of Meadville, known by the name of the public square." In compliance with this law, a two-storied hewed-log building was erected that year on the site of Brawley McClintock's law office, which stands immediately between the residences of Hons. David Derickson and Hiram L. Richmond. The lower story was used for a jail and jailor's residence, and a small lot in the rear of the building was enclosed with a high post picket fence for a jail lot. The second story was the court room, and was accessible by an outside stairway in front of the building. This room was also utilized by the pioneers, wherein to hold meetings of all sorts, and here, too, they met for religious worship. It therefore served the two-fold purpose of a training place for imparting both civil and religious teachings. The lot on which the court house and jail stood was purchased of David Mead, for $100 (he having previously donated the Diamond for that purpose), while the clearing and grubbing of the same, and erecting the building, was done by William Dick, at a cost of $2,493. John Grier was paid $100 for sinking a well in the jail lot, so that the total cost of the first court house and jail was $2,593. Upon the erection of a new court house in 1824, all of the old building was converted into a jail, and used as such until the present stone structure was built, in 1849, when the lot was sold to Judge Derickson, and the building torn down and removed by the Commissioners.



D. O. Wing

From the year 1804 up to 1819 the county officials occupied rented offices in the residence of Hon. William McArthur, which stood on the northwest corner of North Main Street and the Diamond. In the latter year a lot was purchased on South Main Street, and a two-storied brick building erected thereon for the use of the county officers, at a total cost of $2,579. When the second court house was built, some five years afterward, this building was sold, and is yet standing in a good state of preservation immediately south of the Unitarian Church.

In 1824 a new court house was erected on the site of the present imposing structure, at a total cost of about $15,000. It was a long brick building, with a Doric temple front consisting of four pillars, and was surmounted with a circular cupola or belfry. It was but a one-story building in the interior, the county offices being in the front part, and the court room in the rear of the offices. In 1833 an 800-pound bell was purchased, at a cost of $351, and hung in the belfry. It was at that time the largest bell in the county, and its clear tones could be distinctly heard a distance of seven miles. This building was used until 1867, when it was removed to make room for the present one, the courts in the meantime being held in the Richmond Block, on Chestnut Street, the county officials also occupying rented offices.

The jail is a two-storied stone building in the rear of the court house, and was erected in 1849. It faces on Center Street, the Sheriff occupying the front part of it, while the balance is fitted up with iron cells for prisoners. We understand that the building has been condemned by several grand juries, as being inadequate to the present wants of the county, yet there seems to be little prospect, at the present time, of a new one taking its place, though such a change is strongly advocated by many of the leading citizens.

The erection of the present fine court house was commenced in the fall of 1867, the corner stone was laid May 27, 1868, and the building completed in October, 1869. It is located on the east side of the Diamond, in Meadville, and is constructed in the *Renaissance* style, of pressed brick, with stone trimmings. It has marble floors, an iron roof, and is considered fire-proof throughout, though the latter is very doubtful, as much of its finishings are of wood. The building is heated by steam, and its total cost, including fencing, flagging and furnishings, was $249,000. A handsome dome, containing a clock, surmounts the structure, and on the summit of the dome is a figure representing Justice holding the scales. The court house contains all the county offices, is handsomely finished, and very convenient in its internal arrangements, while its exterior will compare favorably with the public buildings of other counties. On the first floor are located the offices of the County Commissioners, Register and Recorder, Sheriff, Treasurer, Clerk of the Courts, County Superintendent of Schools, District Attorney, Court Stenographer, and the Arbitration Room. The court room, Prothonotary's office and jury rooms occupy the second floor, and the janitor's rooms are in the third story, or attic. The County Commissioners, at the time the corner stone was laid, were: Benjamin G. David, Jeremiah Baker and John M. Calvin; the architect was E. L. Roberts, and the builders Carpenter and Mathews, all of whom deserve credit for the faithful performance of their part in the erection of a building that does honor to the enterprise of Crawford County.

For more than fifty years after the organization of the county each township cared for its own poor, but on the 15th of April, 1851, an act was passed by the Legislature "To provide for the erection of a house for the employment and support of the poor in the county of Crawford." Isaac Saeger, James D. McIntire, James Cochran, Hugh Brawley, H. B. Beatty, Anson

Leonard, William McLean and John Reynolds were appointed by the act Commissioners to purchase land for said purpose, and the County Commissioners were instructed to erect suitable buildings thereon, and were designated as managers of the institution from that time forward, known as "The Directors of the Poor and of the House of Employment in the county of Crawford." The Commissioners appointed by the act purchased of Joseph Woodring, December 8, 1851, ninety-nine acres and eighty perches of land adjoining the borough of Saegertown, for the sum of $3,980. On the 22d of May, 1852, the Directors entered into a contract with James A. McFadden and Joseph Balliet to erect a building on said land at a cost of $7,250, to be completed by July 1, 1853. It is a two-story-and-a-half brick structure, 42x90 feet in dimensions, with a kitchen in the rear 22x36 feet; but when finished the Directors would not accept it. A law suit followed and was decided in favor of the contractors. The building was first occupied in 1854, and served all purpose until 1868, when a three-storied brick building 45x68 feet in size was erected adjoining the old structure, at a cost of about $20,000. On the 11th of March, 1869, 124 acres were added to the farm, purchased of the executors of Henry Strouss for $8,660. Another addition of thirteen acres and ninety-eight perches was made to the farm July 18, 1881, bought of Dr. Abraham Diechman at an expense of $680.62½. The farm thus contains something over 236 acres of good land, upon which many other improvements besides those mentioned have been made from time to time. A fine barn was built in 1884 at a cost of $1,200, and the farm and improvements have thus far cost the county about $50,000.

The building is heated throughout by steam, and an abundance of good water is supplied from a spring on the premises. The Superintendent, A. J. McQuiston, and his family occupy the first floor of the main building, while all the balance is utilized by the inmates for sleeping rooms, bath rooms, dining rooms, kitchen, etc. These unfortunates are furnished with good, wholesome food, have a regular attending physician, and their apartments are kept clean and comfortable. The house will accommodate about 150 inmates, though usually it contains only about half that number. There is no special provision for the accommodation of the insane, all of whom are sent to the State Asylum at Warren, Penn. The outbuildings include three large barns, one of which was recently erected, while handsome grounds laid out into well-shaded walks and driveways present a picture that is pleasing to the visitor and a credit to the charity of the county.

The Old State Arsenal.—In March, 1816, the Legislature passed an act appropriating $30,000 toward the erection of two arsenals, one at Harrisburg and the other at Meadville. Gen. David Mead donated a piece of land for the Meadville building, and Judge William Clark took the contract to erect and complete the arsenal at a total cost of $16,000. It was a two-story brick building 30x100 feet in dimensions, and stood on the site of the First District schoolhouse. It had seven compartments for cannon and a workshop on the first floor, while the second story was divided into rooms for the storage of small arms and military equipments. During the Rebellion the arsenal was used as a barracks for recruits, and after standing about fifty years as a conspicuous ornament to Meadville, it was transferred by a special act of the Legislature to the city for school purposes, and torn down to make room for the erection of the school building which now occupies the site.

CHAPTER XV.

EDUCATION—THE OLD BLOCK-HOUSE WHEREIN THE FIRST SCHOOL IN CRAWFORD COUNTY WAS TAUGHT—THE ACT ERECTING THE COUNTY PROVIDES FOR A SEMINARY OF LEARNING AT THE COUNTY SEAT—PIONEER SCHOOL-HOUSES—SCHOOL LAW OF 1809—FREE SCHOOLS ESTABLISHED IN 1834—NATIONALITY AND EDUCATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE EARLY SETTLERS—TEACHERS OF PIONEER DAYS—ORGANIZATION OF THE CRAWFORD COUNTY TEACHERS' INSTITUTE—ITS GROWTH AND PROGRESS, AND THE WORK IT HAS ACCOMPLISHED——SCHOOL LAW OF 1854—OFFICE OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT CREATED—ESTABLISHMENT OF NORMAL SCHOOLS—SUPERINTENDENTS SINCE 1854—PRESENT CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS—CRAWFORD COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY—HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY—CRAWFORD COUNTY MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY—FARMERS' MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

DURING the first thirty-four years of the present century, the means of education throughout the county were such as the enterprise and foresight of the settlers, burdened with ceaseless toil, and beset with poverty, prompted them voluntarily to provide. The forest had to be leveled, the stubborn soil broken, the rough places made even, and the crooked made straight. The family had to be clothed and fed, and provision made in the years of plenty for the years of famine; and it is a wonder, amid trials so great, that the subject of the education of their children arrested the thought of the settler, and a matter of pride and congratulation that the generation which grew up in this severe school attained to so good a degree of instruction and training as they did. It was the good seed that fell on good ground, and, in these later years, has brought forth, "some thirty, some sixty, and some an hundred fold." The fountain-head of instruction in Crawford County was the old block-house erected in 1794, on the northeast corner of Water Street and Steer's Alley, Meadville. It served as a rallying point in times of danger, and when that had passed, was repaired by James Gibson at the expense of David Mead, and the upper story utilized for school purposes. The first school was taught in this structure by an Irishman named Kelly, in the winter of 1798–99, and continued at intervals for several years.

The next scene in the drama of educational progress was the act of March 12, 1800, erecting Crawford County, which contained a proviso fixing the county seat at Meadville, on condition that the inhabitants of that village and vicinity would contribute $4,000, either in money or land, toward the founding of a seminary of learning in the county; but in case this provision was not carried out, the act authorized the location of said county seat within four miles of Meadville. David Mead, Frederick Haymaker and James Gibson were constituted Trustees for the county, and empowered to receive and hold in trust for the benefit of the contemplated institution, property of any description, and to sell and re-invest in such manner as to them should seem judicious. It was, doubtless, difficult to raise money for institutions of learning then, as now; but the man who conceived that proviso understood human nature, and plainly foresaw that, by bringing a pressure to bear, which would come of seeing the county seat liable to be carried four miles away, he would surely bring out the needed resources. It was a condition intended to confer lasting benefit, and secure that virtue and intelligence

which should make the town a fit place for the habitation of justice, and its conception evinced a foresight and political wisdom worthy of imitation by the founders of States.

The pioneer schoolhouses were usually built of logs, and sometimes a deserted cabin would be utilized for the purpose. The desks were placed around against the walls, and the pupils occupying them sat facing the windows. Benches, without backs, for the smaller scholars, occupied the middle of the room. The windows were quite long, longitudinally, and from two to three panes wide, perpendicularly, and often covered with greased paper instead of glass. A desk for the teacher, a huge stove in the middle of the room, a bucket, and what was called the "pass," a small paddle, having the words "in" and "out" written on its opposite sides, constituted the furniture of the room. These structures have long since disappeared and Crawford County is now well supplied with schoolhouses of a superior character, and fully up to the requirements of the age, both in the style of the buildings and their furniture.

In 1809 a law was passed providing for the "education of the poor, gratis." The assessors, in their annual levies, were required to enroll the names of all indigent parents, and the tuition of the children of such parents, in the most convenient schools, was provided for out of the county treasury. By reference to the record of that period, it is seen that some pupils were educated at the county expense in nearly all of the old townships. But the number was small, as most families were unwilling to proclaim themselves paupers. Their pride and self-respect revolted at such a declaration, and Thaddeus Stevens, in a speech in the House of Representatives, said that such a law as that, instead of being called a public school law, ought to be entitled, *an act for branding und marking the poor, so that they may be known from the rich and proud.*" Neverthless, we find that the following amounts were paid out in Crawford County for the "education of poor children": In 1810, $30.69; 1811, $58.81; 1812, $67.32; 1813, $40.10; 1814, $28.36; 1816, $51.14; 1818, $49.59; 1819, $120.74; 1822, $248.29; 1823, $325.57; 1824, $299.31; 1825, $376.98; 1826, $366.27; 1827, $271.29; 1828, $230; 1829, $162.24; 1830, $217.90; 1831, $353.58; 1832, $387.26; 1833, $401; 1834, $622.10. The assistance thus given exerted a deadening influence upon the sensibilites of the people, as to the value of education, and, during the progress of the quarter of a century that it was in operation, a lethargy gradually settled down upon them that required a herculean effort to throw off. This system, owing to sparseness of population, was, for the time, perhaps, the best thing that could be offered, though it made no provision for the establishing of schools, but took it for granted that schools already existed, to which the poor could be sent.

In 1834 the free school law, open alike to rich and poor, was passed and sent forth to the people. It was not made absolute in its operations, but was left to a vote of the people whether it should be accepted or rejected. By the annual report of the Secretary of State, Dr. Burrowes, read before the Legislature on the 19th of February, 1838, it appears that of the 987 districts in the State, only 742 accepted the provisions of the law. It is a matter of congratulation to find that of the twenty-seven districts of Crawford County not one rejected the free school system when offered.

Crawford County was principally settled by pioneers from the older portions of Pennsylvania and the Eastern States, and with emigrants from Ireland and Germany, many of whom had crossed the Atlantic and fought for that freedom which they were afterward destined to enjoy. The native American brought with him the habit of free school instruction, which had long been in

operation in the section whence he came; the Irishman brought the principles of rigid discipline and that sound education for which his native land had for many centuries been noted; and the German was proud of his relationship to a people among the most renowned in christendom for great scholarship and advancement in popular education. Hence, the cordiality with which all classes accepted the provisions of the new law, and joined in putting them in operation was a matter of principle, and forms a bright page in the educational history of the county.

The qualifications of the pioneer school teachers were in the main, moderate. Most of them had been educated in Ireland, or the Eastern States, and though capable of giving good instruction, their method was characterized by a rigid discipline well in keeping with the times. The rod was looked upon by the pioneers as an indispensable element in successful teaching. Though the free school system of 1834 was adopted and sustained by legislation, it had a hard struggle at first for existence. Where school buildings had been erected, they were unfit and inadequate; hence, new buildings had to be largely provided, and the first expense without immediate fruit. But the greatest drawback to the success of the system was the lack of suitable teachers. To be sure, the compensation was very small, and there was little inducement for securing the requisite culture. By the report of 1836, it is shown that there were in Crawford County eighty male teachers and ninety female, and their average salaries were $12.03 for males, and $4.75 per month for the females. The Legislature made some provision for colleges and academies, in the hope that they would do something toward fitting common school teachers. The academies, it is true, accomplished something, and the colleges perhaps more—and notably, the college in this county; yet, it was not much that they did in raising up the great body of common school teachers to that kind of scholastic culture necessary for such teaching. It was like attempting to make watches with only rough, coarse, unskilled workmen, who were to execute the most delicate mechanism.

The first hopeful sign of radical improvement among the common school teachers was their attempt at organization—a groping for means of improvement, and an indication that they really felt the need of bettering their condition. Crawford County has the honor of having had the first teachers' institute ever convened within the borders of the State, outside the city of Philadelphia, and, even then, the associations which were organized as early as 1813 partook little of the nature of our institute. The first meeting was held on the 25th of March, 1850, at Meadville. The history of its origin is interesting, and sounds not unlike the annals of the early missionaries. Several young men, all of whom were engaged in teaching, more or less, in our public schools, deploring the public apathy in regard to the schools in this and adjoining counties, and the lamentable deficiency in knowledge, unity of action, and sympathy, apparent among teachers, began to cast about to find an appropriate remedy for existing evils. Foremost among these praiseworthy men was Mr. J. F. Hicks, who, unsolicited, and without the expectation of receiving any return of honor or emolument, set out as a missionary of education, on a tour of exploration through Crawford and Mercer Counties. He visited, in person, a large number of schools, and conversed with teachers and parents on the subject of popular education; traveling for this purpose, on foot, in the depth of a most inclement winter. Thanks to his most philanthropic efforts, and the few others associated with him, the attention of teachers was so far aroused and so much interest was elicited, that they responded in large numbers to a call for a public meeting, to be held at the village of

Exchangeville, in Mercer County, on the 3d of February, 1850. That meeting, after a deliberate survey of the system of public schools, and of the imperative duty devolved on them as teachers, to do whatever lay in their power to render their schools more efficient nurseries of morality and knowledge, solemnly united in a fraternity for the purpose, and drew up a constitution which contemplated permanent organization. They adjourned to meet again on the 25th of March following, in Meadville, and at this place, accordingly, was held the first regular meeting of the association. Its meetings occurred every six months until 1867, when the statute law designated them to be held annually.

"The past history of the Crawford County Teachers' Institute," says Rev. John Barker, D. D., President of Allegheny College in 1853, "is one on which every friend of popular education, indeed, every friend of humanity, and of his race, must dwell with unalloyed pleasure, while the omens of its future prosperity give us reasons to expect that it is destined to enjoy a long career of usefulness and honor—composed of the actual teachers of the county, laboring in common cause—the cause of truth and virtue. Thus harmony, no less than energy, has marked the deliberations of this body; progress has been its watchword, and under its auspices a vast amount of information has been diffused through the community at large, in regard to the proper province of public schools. To the body of teachers it has been from the beginning an occasion of the most pleasing re-union, a bond of sympathy, a wise friend and counselor, and a voice of admonition and exhortation, gently chiding our past delinquencies, and urging us forward with a spirit more earnest and more enlightened, in our career of noble and benevolent efforts."

"The truth of these prophetic words of over a quarter of a century ago," says County Superintendent James C. Graham, in 1877, "has been strikingly verified by the great amount of good which the institute has been doing yearly for public instruction. Of humble, though heroic origin, that permanent organization laid the keel of our humble craft, which was afterward very wisely secured and strengthened by the revised school law of 1854. By this law, new life and power were given to school officers. It engrafted upon the system the office of County Superintendent, whereby the examining and licensing of teachers should be upon a uniform basis, the supervision of schools secured, the making out and filing of reports arranged, and the conducting of teachers' institutes provided for. It also provided for a carefully illustrated school architecture, at public expense. This came at a most opportune time. The hour was ripe for better houses. The little red schoolhouse had fulfilled its mission, a most useful one; but it was outgrown. It was too small, rude and inappropriate. It helped to stimulate the resolution to build. Great activity sprang up throughout the whole State, and there followed an era of building schoolhouses. That period may now be said to have passed, a new and better class of houses having been universally supplied. Many, indeed, of the houses to-day are considered first-class. By the same enactment, the *School-Journal* was made the organ of the school department, a measure which has proved a powerful agency in disseminating sound knowledge upon educational topics."

In 1854 were enacted two measures, deeply affecting the vitality and strength of the common school system, that of the 18th of April, creating an independent school department of the State, with a Superintendent and deputies; and that of the 20th of May, providing for the establishment of twelve normal schools, for the special training of teachers. Ten are now in full operation. The one in the twelfth district is located in Edinboro, but three miles

from this county, in that of Erie. About one hundred teachers from Crawford attend this school every term. Through the indomitable energy that knows no discouragement, and the enlightened policy adopted by its Principal, Prof. Joseph A. Cooper, it has become one of the most prosperous of them all. Other legislative acts, from time to time, have strengthened the system; among them, in particular, is the act of 1872, fixing the minimum school term at five months.

The feature of the common school system which, in this county, as well as others, excited the most discussion and some opposition also at first, was the county superintendency. But in the face of many difficulties it has won its way to usefulness through great labor, and it is generally admitted to have been an important aid in improving the grade of instruction, and elevating the character of the schools. The first officer, elected in 1854, was a man of broad mind and large attainments, Mr. S. S. Sears, who labored zealously, but resigned on account of inadequacy of pay, receiving but $400 per annum. He was succeeded, April 1, 1856, by J. Clifton Marcy, a gentleman of equally liberal culture. He was succeeded, in 1857, by Samuel P. Bates, of scholarly attainments, afterward Deputy State Superintendent, a popular educator and well-known author. He resigned in 1860, after re-election for a second term, and Samuel R. Thompson was appointed to fill the vacancy. Prof. Thompson was an able officer, and was re-elected in 1863, but resigned the following November, to teach in the Edinboro State Normal School. Hugh R. Stewart, a practical teacher of the county, was appointed in December, 1864. He served one year, and was succeeded by Daniel R. Coder, who finished the term, and was followed by H. D. Persons, for six years, until 1872, when James C. Graham was elected, and re-elected in 1875. He was succeeded by C. F. Chamberlain, in 1878, who was re-elected in 1881, serving until June, 1884. The present incumbent is J. W. Sturdevant, who was chosen as the successor of Prof. Chamberlain.

Since the introduction of the present system of public instruction, school matters have undergone a complete revolution. We have better schoolhouses and furniture; text-books have been greatly improved; the classification of schools is established on a truer basis; and the teachers receive higher salaries and enjoy better opportunities for professional training—afforded by the State normal schools, county institutes, and pedagogical literature, and are in general superior to the masters of the old *regime*. It is doubtless owing to the fact that Crawford County was so fortunate in the character of her early settlers, and that education was so much prized among all classes, from the earliest settlement of the county, that she owes the reputation which her people have attained for intelligence and general culture.

The Crawford County Medical Society was organized in Meadville, at the office of Dr. William Church, August 6, 1866, by the following physicians: Drs. T. B. Lashells, William Varian, J. C. Cotton, William Church, David Best, J. W. Grier, J. P. Hassler, D. M. Calvin, E. H. Dewey, C. D. Ashley and W. F. McLean. Dr. J. W. Grier, of Adamsville, was chosen President; Dr. William Varian, of Titusville, Vice-President; Dr. William Church, of Meadville, Recording Secretary; Dr. David Best, of Meadville, Corresponding Secretary, and Dr. J. P. Hassler, of Cochranton, Treasurer. These officers were elected under the constitution of the old society, now extinct, as a new constitution and by-laws were not adopted until September 4, 1866. The society has been in active operation since its organization, and the following officers have presided over its destinies from year to year:

1867.—President, Dr. J. W. Grier; Vice-Presidents, Drs. William Varian

and J. C. Cotton; Recording Secretary, Dr. William Church; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. David Best; Treasurer, Dr. J. P. Hassler; Censors, Drs. J. T. Ray, David Best and S. S. Bates.

1868.—President, Dr. S. S. Bates; Vice-Presidents, Drs. D. M. Calvin and J. P. Hassler; Recording Secretary, Dr. William Church; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. David Best; Treasurer, Dr. D. R. Greenlee; Censors, Drs. T. B. Lashells, J. W. Grier and T. F. Oakes.

1869.—President, Dr. J. T. Ray; Vice-Presidents, Drs. J. P. Hassler and T. F. Oakes; Recording Secretary, Dr. E. H. Dewey; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. William Varian; Treasurer, Dr. D. R. Greenlee; Censors, Drs. G. W. Barr, David Best and D. M. Calvin.

1870.—President, Dr. George O. Moody; Vice-Presidents, Drs. David Best and T. F. Oakes; Recording Secretary, Dr. Stephen Volck; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. Arthur O'Neill; Treasurer, Dr. David Best; Censors, Drs. David Best, D. M. Calvin and G. W. Barr.

1871.—President, Dr. J. C. Cotton; Vice-Presidents, Drs. Arthur O'Neill and G. W. Barr; Recording Secretary, Dr. Stephen Volck; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. J. P. Hassler; Treasurer, Dr. J. T. Ray; Censors, Drs. J. T. Ray, J. P. Hassler and William Varian.

1872.—President, Dr. William Varian; Vice-Presidents, Drs. J. T. Ray and T. F. Oakes; Recording Secretary, Dr. J. S. Chase; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. T. J. Young; Treasurer, Dr. D. M. Calvin; Censors, Drs. G. W. Barr, J. C. Cotton and Arthur O'Neill.

1873.—President, Dr. David Best; Vice Presidents, Drs. G. W. Barr and Arthur O'Neill; Recording Secretary, Dr. J. C. Cotton; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. J. P. Hassler; Treasurer, Dr. D. M. Calvin; Censors, Drs. William Varian, J. T. Ray and J. P. Hassler.

1874.—President, Dr. T. F. Oakes; Recording Secretary, Dr. J. P. Hassler; balance missing from the record-book.

1875.—President, Dr. D. M. Calvin; Vice-Presidents, Drs. T. J. Young and J. P. Hassler; Recording Secretary, Dr. J. C. Cotton; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. William Varian; Treasurer, Dr. J. R. Levan; Censors, Drs. G. W. Barr, David Best and M. C. Dunnigan.

1876.—President, G. W. Barr; Vice-Presidents, Drs. C. D. Ashley and S. S. Porter; Recording Secretary, Dr. William Varian; Corresponding Secretary, David Best; Treasurer, Dr. T. J. Young; Censors, Drs. T. F. Oakes, J. C. Cotton and Arthur O'Neill.

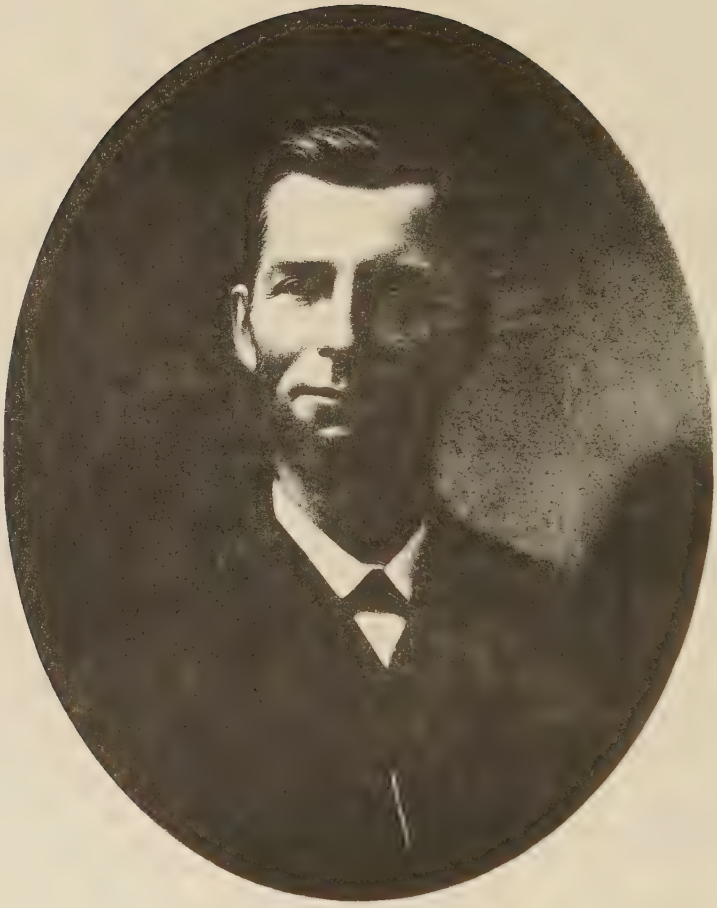
1877.—President, Dr. Arthur O'Neill; Recording Secretary, Dr. S. S. Porter; balance missing from the record book.

1878.—President, Dr. T. J. Young; Vice-Presidents, Drs. G. W. Barr and J. P. Hassler; Recording Secretary, Dr. William Varian; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. J. C. Cotton; Treasurer, Dr. David Best; Censors, Drs. David Best, George O. Moody and D. M. Calvin.

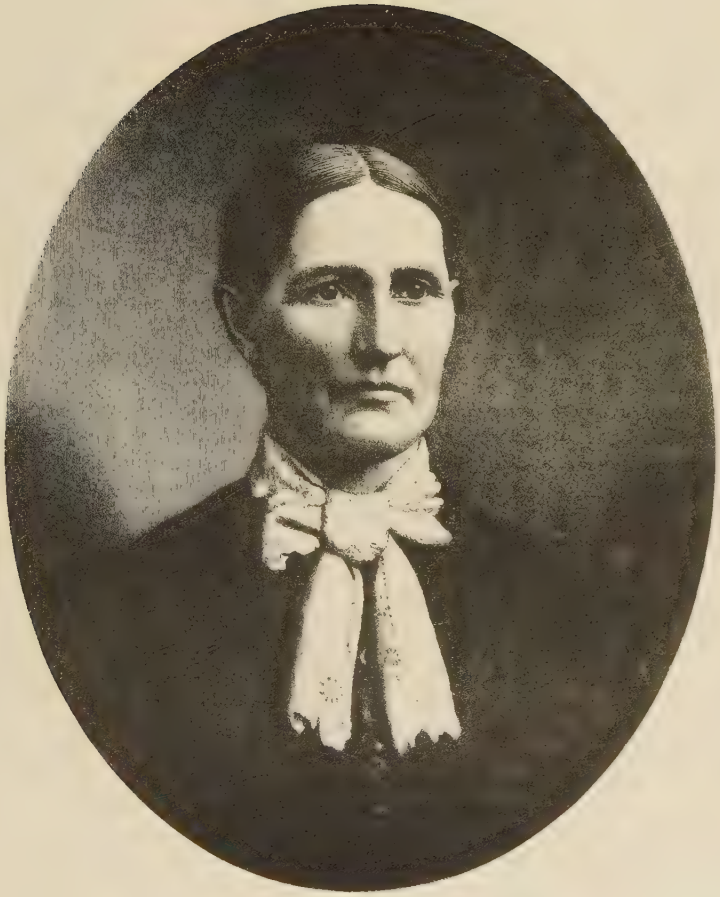
1879.—President, Dr. D. R. Greenlee; Vice President, M. C. Dunnigan and J. S. Eagleson; Recording Secretary, Dr. S. S. Porter; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. G. W. Barr; Treasurer, Dr. T. J. Young; Censors, Drs. David Best, George O. Moody and D. M. Calvin.

1880.—President, Dr. A. P. Waid; Vice-Presidents, Drs. S. S. Porter and William Varian; Recording Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. T. J. Young; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. J. S. Eagleson; Censors, Drs. George O. Moody, J. S. Eagleson and D. R. Greenlee.

1881.—President, Dr. J. P. Hassler; Vice-Presidents, Drs. J. D. Littlefield and E. S. Ellis; Recording Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. T. J. Young; Cor-



Francis C Ward



Eliza C. Waid

responding Secretary, Dr. William Varian; Censors, Drs. J. C. Cotton (who resigned in April and was succeeded by Dr. A. P. Waid), G. W. Barr and E. H. Dewey.

1882.—President, Dr. William Varian; Vice Presidents, Drs. E. H. Dewey and J. T. Waid; Recording Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. T. J. Young; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. A. F. Rhodes; Censors, Drs. G. W. Barr, J. T. Waid and David Best.

1883.—President, Dr. E. M. Farrelly; Vice-Presidents, Drs. E. H. Dewey and A. F. Rhodes; Recording Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. T. J. Young; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. G. W. Barr; Censors, Drs. William A. Baker, G. A. Clark and D. M. Calvin.

1884.—President, Dr. E. H. Dewey; Vice-Presidents, Drs. George O. Moody and David Best; Recording Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. T. J. Young; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. G. W. Barr; Censors, Drs. William Varian, Arthur O'Neil and D. M. Calvin.

The main object of the society is to stimulate and encourage the dissemination of medical science among its members, and so control their practice as to bring it within the code of medical ethics usually adopted by the societies of the allopathic school of medicine. The most important feature of such societies is the interchange of thought and discussion which takes place between the members at their meetings. Any strange or difficult cases that may have come under their observation are reported and discussed, and opinions exchanged as to the most successful mode of treatment to be followed. A well conducted medical society thus becomes a training school for the profession. A goodly number of the leading allopathic physicians of this county have belonged to the Crawford County Medical Society in some period of its existence. Some have died, others have removed from the county, and still others have severed their connection with the society and no longer take any interest in its affairs. Its officials, however, claim that it is now in a flourishing condition, and contains the following membership: D. M. Calvin, E. H. Dewey, J. C. Cotton, David Best and Charles P. Woodring, Meadville; William Varian, George O. Moody, George W. Barr and T. J. Young, Titusville; J. P. Hassler, Cochranton; Arthur O'Neill, Conneautville; Almina F. Rhodes and Jacob P. Strayer; Cambridgeboro; A. P. Waid, Spartansburg; G. L. Clark, Centerville; Ellis M. Farrelly, Townsville; W. A. Baker, Hydetown.

Homœopathic Medical Society of Crawford County.—On the 13th of January, 1874, the Homœopathic Medical Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania was organized at Franklin. Its meetings were held in turn at different towns in the counties embraced in this portion of the State. After some four years of active operation it ceased to exist. A new society was then organized, February 13, 1878, at the office of Dr. E. C. Parsons, Meadville, which adopted the name, constitution and by-laws of the previous one. Its organizers were: Drs. E. C. Parsons, J. N. Pond and Susan F. Rose, of Meadville; Dr. J. Whitely, of Oil City, and Dr. C. F. Canfield, of Titusville. The following officers were elected and served during the one brief year of its existence: President, Dr. J. Whitely; Vice-President, Dr. J. N. Pond; Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. Susan F. Rose. Three years passed by ere another effort was made to unite the homœopathic practitioners of this locality in a society. On the 13th of June, 1882, a number of physicians of the homœopathic school of medicine met at the office of Dr. E. C. Parsons, Meadville, for the purpose of organizing a medical society. Drs. J. L. Dunn, J. D. Stoneroad, J. O. Morrow, Susan F. Rose, S. W. Sellew and E. C. Parsons responded to the call. Drs. Parsons, Rose and Stoneroad were appointed a Committee to prepare a

constitution and by-laws for the government of the Society, which adjourned to meet for final action, July 28, 1882. On that date Drs. E. C. Parsons, J. N. Pond, Susan F. Rose, J. L. Dunn, Byron Smith, Anson Parsons, L. R. Heath, Ernest B. Smith, S. W. Sellew, J. B. Frazier and E. P. Wilmot met and adopted the new constitution and by-laws, organizing under the title of the "Homœopathic Medical Society of Crawford County, Penn.," with the following officers: President, Dr. J. L. Dunn, of Titusville; Vice-President, Dr. J. N. Pond, of Meadville; Secretary, Dr. E. C. Parsons, of Meadville; Treasurer, Dr. Susan F. Rose, of Meadville.

The same officers were chosen in 1883, excepting the Vice-President, Dr. J. N. Pond, who was succeeded by Dr. Anson Parsons. In 1884 Dr. Anson Parsons was elected President; Dr. L. R. Heath, Vice President; Dr. E. C. Parsons, Secretary; and Dr. Susan F. Rose, Treasurer. Thus they remain at the present time (August, 1884), the official election occurring in January of each year.

The society meets four times a year to look after its affairs. Essays are read by members appointed for that purpose, and free discussion takes place on all subjects which come before the society. The attending physicians report any strange or difficult cases that may have come under their notice, and each case is taken up and thoroughly discussed as to the most scientific mode of treatment. These meetings thus become a school for the dissemination of medical knowledge, and are looked forward to by the members with much pleasure and increasing interest. The present membership embraces every recognized homœopathic physician in Crawford County, besides four from outside counties, and is as follows: Drs. E. C. Parsons, J. N. Pond, Susan F. Rose and J. D. Stoneroad, Meadville; Drs. J. L. Dunn and E. C. Quimby, Titusville; Dr. Anson Parsons, Springboro; Dr. G. W. Wagner, Linesville; Dr. J. O. Morrow, Evansburg; Drs. Ernest B. Smith, and Byron Smith, Townville; Dr. L. R. Heat, Spartansburg; Dr. E. P. Wilmot, Franklin, Venango County; Dr. Joseph R. Phillips, Corry, Erie County; Dr. J. B. Frazier, Union City, Erie County, and Dr. S. W. Sellew, Johnstown, Cambria County.

The Crawford County Mutual Insurance Company was incorporated April 28, 1840, by John Reynolds, David Dick, Eliphalet Betts, Norman Callender, Andrew Smith, Horace Cullum, Edward A. Reynolds and John P. Davis. On the 1st of August, 1840, the company organized by electing John Reynolds, President, and David Dick, Secretary. The company have successfully prosecuted the business from that time up to the present, and the risks in force at the close of 1883 amounted to $2,054,160, and the total assets, including premium notes, $202,650. The present officers are: James D. Gill, President; S. B. Dick, Treasurer; G. W. Adams, Secretary; Directors, James D. Gill, Alexander Power, D. G. Shryock, A. S. Davis, J. G. Foster, L. F. McLaughlin, Thomas McCleary, F. W. Ellsworth and Daniel Veith. This company is a Crawford County institution, and its office is at 226 Chesnut Street, Meadville.

The Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Crawford County was chartered November 2, 1872, and has had a very prosperous career. The amount of insurance in force in September, 1884, was $3,733,008, and the premium notes amounted to $240,648. The present officers are: Joseph Brown, President; J. H. Marcy, Vice-President; Emmett W. McArthur, Secretary and Treasurer; Joseph Brown, James Jamison, J. B. Cochran, Cyrus Townley, E. F. Osborn, and J. H. Marcy, Directors. The office is located in the court house, and its success and prosperity are a credit to the management and the people who sustain such local institutions.

CHAPTER XVI.

EARLY MILITARY HISTORY—ENGLISH INTRIGUE AND INDIAN HOSTILITY—TECUMSEH AND THE BATTLE OF TIPPECANOE—WAR OF 1812-15—PREPARING FOR THE CONFLICT—ORGANIZATION OF THE MILITIA—GEN. DAVID MEAD AND BRIGADE-INSPECTOR WILLIAM CLARK ENGAGED IN THE WORK—MILITARY CAMP ESTABLISHED AT MEADVILLE BY GEN. TANNEHILL'S BRIGADE—POLITICAL TROUBLE BETWEEN THE SOLDIERS WHILE IN CAMP—THE COMMAND LEAVES FOR THE FRONT—EXCITEMENT CAUSED BY HULL'S SURRENDER—PATRIOTISM OF THE PIONEERS—TANNEHILL'S BRIGADE DISBAND—TESTIMONIAL TO MAJ. JAMES HERRIOTT—RECRUITING OFFICE AT MEADVILLE—BUILDING OF PERRY'S FLEET—GEN. MEAD'S STIRRING APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE—PERRY'S LETTER OF THANKS TO GEN. MEAD—BATTLE OF LAKE ERIE—SECOND LETTER FROM PERRY TO MEAD—MEAD'S TROOPS STATIONED AT ERIE IN 1813-14—CAPT. MORRIS RECRUITING AT MEADVILLE—LIST OF OFFICERS—PEACE PROCLAIMED—BRIEF REVIEW OF THE WAR—MEXICAN WAR.

WHEN the brilliant victories of the patriot army under Washington, nobly aided by its French allies, wrested independence from the British crown, a glorious freedom brought joy and happiness to the united colonies. But freedom forced from tyranny, at the point of the bayonet, could not be productive of a lasting peace, so long as the same old foe of American liberty retained any hope of winning back her lost possessions. Therefore, though the clash of arms was not heard, the agents of England were secretly using her accursed gold among the Tory discontents and the enemies of the young Republic in this land, beside stirring up the savage tribes of the interior to fiendish acts of atrocity against the defenseless settlements on the frontier. The Eastern Tories feared to show an open hand, and though plotting the destruction of this Government and the return of British domination, yet their power and numbers were so limited that their infamous efforts came to naught. Not so their Indian allies, for they kept up a continuous, though desultory warfare, until their humiliating defeat by Gen. Wayne, in 1794. The Treaty of Greenville was consummated the following year, and the Indians remained at peace until about 1810, when they again assumed a threatening attitude and began to commit depredations upon the inhabitants of the West.

The celebrated Shawnee Chief, Tecumseh, was conspicuously active in his efforts to unite the Indian tribes against the Americans, and to arrest the further extension of the frontier settlements. In this scheme he was encouraged by the promises and material assistance of English agents residing in Canada. His proceedings, and those of his brother, "the Prophet," soon made it evident, notwithstanding their protestations of innocence, that the West was about to suffer the calamities of another Indian war, and it was therefore resolved by the Government to precipitate the coming conflict ere the Indian confederacy was completed. In 1811, during the absence of Tecumseh, on one of his secret missions to the Southern tribes, Gen. Harrison, Governor of the Territory of Indiana, marched against a force of Indians under "the Prophet," which was concentrated on the Wabash River. The battle of Tippecanoe followed and resulted in the total defeat of the savages.

Peace reigned for a brief period, but the arrogant claims of the English government finally forced the United States into a declaration of war, and the

edict was sent forth on the 18th of June, 1812. Though the declaration had been expected, a thrill of patriotic devotion to the starry flag, passed like an electric shock through the nation. Enlistments had been making into the Regular army, and volunteer companies tendering their services during several previous months; but the tug of war had come at last, and it behooved the nation to prepare for the conflict.

At that time the Canadian territory bordering the lakes and the St. Lawrence was far in advance of the opposite side of the United States in population, commerce and agriculture. The British were also much better prepared for war, having kept up a series of military posts from Niagara to Sault Ste. Marie, which were well supplied with men, arms and provisions, and being provided with a "Provincial navy," gave them the mastery of the lakes. They were on the best of terms with the Indians on both sides of the water whose co-operation they artfully managed to retain during the progress of the war, and whose reputation for cruelty kept the American frontier in a constant state of terror whenever their warlike bands were known or supposed to be in the vicinity. On the American side, the population was sparse, the settlements were small and widely scattered, and the military posts were few, weak, and either insufficiently defended or left without protection of any kind. There was no navy or regular army in this part of the Union. The military of the several States was poorly organized and without suitable equipments, and to make a bad condition worse, the Indians were everywhere hostile, treacherous and ready at the expected signal to combine for the purpose of driving the white men out of the country.

In anticipation of the conflict, Gov. Snyder, who was a warm friend of the administration, had organized the militia of the State into two grand divisions —one for the east and one for the west. The Western division was under the command of Maj. Gen. Adamson Tannehill, of Pittsburgh. The State was afterward subdivided into several military districts, and Maj. Gen. David Mead, of Meadville, was appointed to the command of the Sixteenth division, of which the militia of Crawford Couty formed a part. In July, 1812, William Clark, of Meadville, Brigade Inspector of the First Brigade, Sixteenth Division, Pennsylvania Militia, called into service 200 volunteers, to be stationed along Lake Erie as a frontier guard. Early in the following month 505 muskets, with flints, powder and lead, were received at Meadville from Harrisburg to equip this force, which left for Erie on the 19th of August. About the same time Capt. James Cochran's company of Riflemen, recruited in Crawford County, that was in camp at Meadville, also marched to Erie. On the 26th of August, Brigade Inspector Clark arrived from Erie with the information that five British vessels had been seen a few miles outside the Bay of Presque Isle, and that four messengers had reached Erie the previous night with the news that a force of British Indians had landed near Sandusky, cutting off all communications with Gen. Hull's army.

An express arrived at Meadville from Harrisburg, September 14, 1812, with orders for Brigade Inspector Clark to call out his quota of 2,000 men, to be taken from the counties west of the Allegheny Mountains, Pittsburgh and Meadville being the places of rendezvous. The latter was selected as a convenient point at which to collect a force for service in the contemplated invasion of Canada. Accordingly instructions were issued to accepted companies of Pennsylvania volunteers to rendezvous at Meadville in early autumn, form a brigade, elect officers and await orders. Ground for the camp was offered by Samuel Lord and accepted, and as the companies arrived they formed their encampment, beginning at the French Creek Road, now known

as "The Terrace," and extending in crescent form to a point east of Allegheny College. These companies were from the western and central counties of the State, and several of them had been long organized and were well disciplined. Maj. Gen. Tannehill was elected to the chief command, but several weeks elapsed before he arrived to assume control. Early in the fall of 1812, Meadville assumed a warlike appearance as the brave volunteers were rapidly answering the call to arms. The following officers were in command of companies encamped on the farm of Mr. Lord, now partly occupied by the beautiful grounds of Hon. William Reynolds: Capts. Sample, Miller, Warner, Thomas and Buchanan, of Washington County; Capt. Thomas Forster, of Erie; Capts. Vance and Patterson, of Green; Capt. McGerry, of Mifflin; Capt. Kleckner, of Center; and Capt. Sammel Derickson, of Northumberland. It was doubtless a cheering spectacle to the citizens of this county to behold such a body of freemen at the call of the nation, forsaking the comforts and ease of domestic life for the privations and hardships of the tented field, to defend the rights and avenge the wrongs of their beloved country.

The inaction of several weeks in camp awaiting organization, tended to produce a spirit of recklessness, and gardens, orchards and poultry yards suffered the usual depredations inseparable from camp life. A few days before their departure, one of the soldier's detailed for duty on Gen. Tannehill's guard, took some onions from a garden in the vicinity of the camp. He was reported by the Sergeant to his Captain, tried by court martial, sentenced to dismissal from the service, and actually drummed out of camp with a wreath of onions tied around his neck. The Federalist party was opposed to the war, and its adherents, as a rule, were looked upon by the Democratic party, who was then in power, as traitors to the cause, and thus nicknamed "Tories." The disgraced soldier being a Democrat, and the owner of the onions a Federalist, the matter was looked upon by the soldiers of Democratic proclivities as a kind of political persecution. They, therefore, made up their minds to be revenged on several prominent Federalists of Meadville, while the Federalist soldiers determined to protect their political friends, and for a short time on the night appointed for the proposed retaliation, a spirit of insubordination reigned supreme. The state of affairs did not come to the knowledge of Gen. Tannehill, himself a Democrat, until they had assumed a serious aspect, and a fight between the Democratic and Federalist soldiers seemed imminent. He at once hurried with his guard to the scene of action, where he found a large number of excited, armed men ready for battle. The General called upon them to retire to their tents, telling them that they had elected him as their commander, but they were now pursuing the very course to bring disgrace upon him and the whole command. He appealed earnestly to the Democratic soldiers, and for his sake they finally concluded to obey, and the trouble ended without bloodshed; but throughout the campaign a bitter feeling existed against Federalists both in and out of the service.

Two rifle regiments commanded by Cols. Irwin and Piper, and the First Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Col. Snyder, that had been in camp at Meadville, left for Buffalo on the 25th of October. They remained in camp at Waterford a short time to allow the Second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, under Col. Purviance, to join them, which left Meadville, November 2d, and on reaching the camp on the flats near Waterford, the whole detachment was soon in motion for the Niagara frontier. Gen. Tannehill was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Division, and remained in charge during the campaign. While at Buffalo it is related to their credit, that when 4,000 New York militia refused to cross the Niagara

and attack the foe, gallant Pennsylvanians under Tannehill promptly obeyed the order.

Soon after Hull's cowardly surrender at Detroit, August 16, 1812, great excitement was caused by a rumor that the enemy was coming down the lake to take all the important places, as also by the news that a large force of British and Indians were being organized on the northern side of the lake, whose special object was a descent upon Erie. The whole Northwest was aroused, and very soon more than 2,000 men were collected under Gen. Mead, from Crawford, Erie, Mercer and the adjoining counties in defense of that town.

It is difficult at this late day to describe the patriotic enthusiasm which at that time filled the hearts of the hardy sons of western Pennsylvania, hundreds of whom had borne from their early Irish homes a deep hatred of English oppression, or whose fathers had been starved and driven from their native land by the same tyranical power. These men longed for an opportunity to strike a blow against their hereditary enemy, and when the tocsin of war sounded, were among the first to leave home and family in defense of freedom's flag. It was this feeling that prompted a Member of Congress from Pennsylvania, when the subject of rebuilding the Capitol at Washington, burned by the English, Gen. Ross, in August, 1814, came before the House, to propose in a ringing speech that the Nation encircle the blackened ruins with an iron balustrade, let ivy grow over them, and place on their front in in letters of brass, the following inscription: "Americans, this is English barbarism. Let us swear eternal hatred to England." As an illustration of the sacrifices made by hundreds of the brave settlers of northwestern Pennsylvania, we here give a notice as printed in the Crawford *Weekly Messenger* of November 11, 1812:

ATTENTION THE WHOLE.

At this moment I am preparing to march to avenge the wrongs and defend the rights of my country. I have but one request to make, and that is that those who know themselves indebted to me, make payment to my wife. She will want a variety of necessaries for the comfort of herself and children. This request is altogether reasonable, and those who refuse compliance I shall consider among the vilest of *tories*.

WILLIAM BURNSIDE, Blacksmith,
Meadville.

Before the close of 1812 the detachment of Gen. Tannehill had dwindled down to about 200 men, and as he was furloughed for the balance of his term of service, this force was placed under the command of Maj. James Herriott, of Meadville, but these men were also soon discharged. No provision had been made to transport them from Buffalo to their homes, and a general feeling of dissatisfaction prevailed among the men. Far from home and friends, without money, in the midst of winter, their treatment was a disgrace to the State; and the following testimonial will show by what agency they were at last enabled to reach their distant homes.

To MAJ. JAMES HERRIOTT—

Sir:—The undersigned officers of a detachment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, who had the honor of being left under your command at Buffalo, beg leave to tender you their thanks for your humane and generous conduct to the soldiers generally. After having almost unanimously volunteered their services to their country to cross the territorial boundary between the United States and the possessions of Great Britain, and endure the fatigue and sufferings of a winter campaign in Upper Canada, and after having remained faithful to the standard of their country, amidst the general complaint of the Pennsylvania line, Gen. Smythe thought proper to discharge them without making any provision for their necessary subsistence to their homes, or for paying whatever was rightfully due to them and the numerous sick. It was on this occasion that you generously stepped forward, and on your individual credit and responsibility, provided for the sick and procured

provisions to be issued to the soldiers on the way to their homes. The undersigned, therefore, in behalf of themselves and the volunteers they had the honor to command, discharge only their duty in thus expressing their gratitude for conduct so highly praiseworthy. With much esteem,

J. ALEXANDER, *Capt. 1st Reg't Penn. Inft.*
WALTER LITHGOW, *Capt. 2d Reg't Penn. Inft.*
JAMES E. HERRON, *Capt. 2d Reg't Penn. Inft.*
R. IRWIN, *Ensign Adj. 2d Reg't Penn. Inft.*
SAMUEL WITRROW, *Capt. 2d Reg't Penn. Inft,*
SAMUEL HOBBS, *Lieut. 2d Reg't Penn. Inft.*
A. F. DEAN, *Surgeon 2d Reg't Penn. Inft.*
W.F. IRWIN, *Surgeon's Mate 2d Reg't Penn. Inft.*

By orders of Col. Hugh Brady, a recruiting office for the Twenty-third Regiment U. S. Infantry was opened at Meadville in April, 1813, under the charge of Capt. Jacob Carmach. A bounty of $40 was offered as an inducement to volunteers, together with food and clothing during service. Upon receiving his discharge, the soldier was guaranteed three months' extra pay, and a warrant for 160 acres of land. The circular setting forth these inducements closed as follows: "An officer will attend to the rendezvous daily, for the purpose of enrolling such patriotic young men, whose spirits spurn at the yoke of Britain, and are willing to enter into this truly honorable service."

In the meantime the necessity of a fleet on Lake Erie was recognized by the Government. In the summer of 1812, Capt. Daniel Dobbins, of Erie, was sent by Gen. David Mead to Washington City as a bearer of dispatches, and was the first person who gave the Government reliable information of the loss of Mackinaw and Detroit. At a meeting of the Cabinet, called immediately after his arrival, the Captain was asked to give his view of the requirements on Lake Erie. He earnestly advocated the establishment of a naval station and the building of a fleet powerful enough to cope with the British upon the lake. These suggestions were adopted. A Sailing Master's commission in the navy was tendered to him and accepted, and he was ordered to proceed to Erie, begin the construction of gunboats, and report to Commodore Chauncey, at Sackett's Harbor, for further instructions. He returned home, and late in October commenced work on two gunboats.

The command on the lake was assigned to Lieut. Oliver Hazard Perry, who arrived at Erie on the 27th of March, 1813, making the trip from Buffalo in a sled on the ice. Perry had served as a midshipman in the war with Tripoli, and had recently been in charge of a flotilla at Newport, R. I. He was but twenty-seven years of age, and was full to the brim with energy, enthusiasm and patriotism. His first step was to provide for the defense of the position. To that end he sent immediately for Gen. Mead. Their consultation resulted in a thousand militia being ordered to rendezvous at Erie on or before the 20th of April. Among the number that responded was an artillery company from Luzerne County, who were authorized to take charge of the four brass field-pieces belonging to the State, which had been stored at Waterford. Reese Hill, of Greene County, was constituted Colonel by the Governor, and given command of the regiment. The old American blockhouse of 1795, which had nearly gone to ruin, was hurriedly restored, as was also the one on the point of the peninsula.

With the facilities of the present day, it is scarcely possible to conceive of the embarrassment that attended Dobbins and Perry in their work. Of practical ship-builders there were very few in the country, and their places had to be taken by house carpenters and blacksmiths gathered from every part of the lower lake region. The timber for the vessels had to be cut in the forests near by and used while yet green. Iron was scarce, and had to be picked up wher-

ever it could be found—in stores, warehouses, shops, farm buildings and elsewhere. A considerable stock was bought from Pittsburgh by flat-boats up French Creek, and some from Buffalo by small boats creeping along the south shore of the lake. Perry wrote to Washington that more mechanics were needed, and Dobbins was dispatched to Black Rock for seamen, arms and ordinance. The transportation of the latter was extremely slow, owing to the miserable roads. Some of the cannon were brought up in sail boats, moving at night only, to avoid the enemy's cruisers. Fortunately for the Americans, the Allegheny River and French Creek continued at a good boating stage until August, an allowance so unusual that it would seem to imply that Providence was on their side. Had it become low at the ordinary time, the fleet could not have been rigged in season to meet the enemy under advantageous circumstances.

During the ealier stages of the construction of the fleet in the Bay of Presque Isle, considerable uneasiness was felt for fear the enemy would attack Erie and destroy the vessels before they were capable of making a defense. Sometimes the Queen Charlotte, the British flagship, would appear alone, and at others the whole squadron. On the 15th of May, the wildest alarm was created by a false report that 600 or 700 British and Indians had landed on the peninsula under cover of a thick fog, and got off again without being seen by the American forces. July 19, six of the enemy's vessels were in sight outside the harbor, where they lay becalmed for two days. Perry went with three gunboats to attack them, and a few shots were exchanged at a mile's distance. A breeze springing up, the enemy sailed away, evidently desiring to avoid a fight. All this time the meager land force at Erie was kept busy parading the bank of the lake, to give the impression to the enemy of a much larger army than was really the case. Upon the appearance of the British fleet, Perry dispatched a messenger to Gen. Mead, at Meadville, informing him of the fact, and telling him that he expected an attack on the town, as the enemy's ships were believed to have troops on board. Perry does not seem to have had any apprehension at this time of danger from the British while his fleet lay in the harbor. He knew that the enemy's vessels could not cross the bar with their heavy armament, and he informed the department that even if a force should land and capture the village, he could easily defend the fleet from its anchorage in the bay. Nevertheless, he did not wish to see Erie fall into the hands of the enemy, and urgently solicited Gen. Mead to send a re-enforcement of militia to assist in defending the town. The General at once issued the following stirring appeal:

CITIZENS TO ARMS.

Your State is invaded The enemy has arrived at Erie, threatening to destroy our navy and the town. His course, hitherto marked with rapine and fire wherever he touched our shore, must be arrested. The cries of infants and women, of the aged and infirm, the devoted victims of the enemy and his savage allies, call on you for defense and protection. Your honor, your property, your all, require you to march immediately to the scene of action. Arms and ammunition will be furnished to those who have none, at the place of rendezvous near to Erie, and every exertion will be made for your subsistence and accommodation. Your service to be useful must be rendered immediately. The delay of an hour may be fatal to your country, in securing the enemy in his plunder and favoring his escape.

DAVID MEAD, *Maj. Gen. 16th D. P. M.*

The citizens of northwestern Pennsylvania responded bravely to this call, and leaving their homes flocked in hundreds to Erie. Young and old vied with each other in patriotic devotion, but fortunately the British did not make the threatened attack. While at Erie the command of Gen. Mead assisted in

getting the vessels over the sand-bar, which at that time nearly blocked the entrance to the harbor. On account of this obstruction the commander of the British fleet looked upon the building of war vessels in the Bay of Presque Isle as a foolish enterprise, believing that they never could be got over the bar, where but a few feet of water then existed. It is a part of the tradition of the time, that when the British squadron was at Port Dover, a complimentary dinner was given to her officers, at which Commodore Barclay, in response to a toast, said: "I expect to find the Yankee brigs hard and fast aground on the bar at Erie, in which predicament it will be but a short job to destroy them." The enemy were at this time endeavoring to concentrate an army at Port Dover, to act in conjunction with the fleet in a move upon Erie, but failed because the troops could not be got up in season. Future events prove the fallacy of the British commander's views, when pitted against the perseverance of the indomitable Perry and his brave men; but to the ingenuity of Capt. Daniel Dobbins, Perry's Master Builder and a pioneer of Erie, belong the principal credit of accomplishing the difficult task. He it was who began the construction of the fleet ere Perry's arrival, and subsequently invented the process by which every vessel was lifted over the bar and landed in safety on the deep water of the lake outside. General Mead and staff visited Perry in the afternoon of the same day, and the latter took occasion to thank the commander of the land forces in the following letter, for the valuable assistance rendered him.

U. S. Sloop of War Lawrence,
Off Erie, August 7, 1813.

Sir:—I beg leave to express to you the great obligation I consider myself under for the ready, prompt and efficient service rendered by the militia under your command, in assisting us in getting the squadron over the bar at the mouth of the harbor, and request you will accept, Sir, the assurance that I shall always recollect with pleasure the alacrity with which you repaired, with your division, to the defense of the public property at this place, on the prospect of an invasion. With great respect I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

O. H. Perry.

Maj. Gen. David Mead,
Pennsylvania Militia, Erie.

The American squadron soon left on a cruise in search of the enemy, and on the 17th of August anchored off Sandusky, where Perry notified Gen. Harrison of their presence, and was invited on board the Lawrence the next day by that officer, attended by his staff and accompanied by some twenty Indian chiefs, who were taken on board that they might report the wonders they had seen and be deterred from joining the enemy. The astonishment and alarm of the red men when the salute was fired in honor of Gen. Harrison is said to have been indescribably comical.

Eight days later the fleet sailed to the head of the lake and discovered the British at anchor in the mouth of Detroit River, but failing to draw them out, returned to Put-in-Bay. On the 31st a re-inforcement of fifty volunteers was received, making a total muster roll of 470. Most of the new men were Kentuckians who had experience as watermen on the western and southern rivers, and they proved to be a valuable acquisition. About this juncture, however, there was much biliousness and dysentery in the squadron, principally among those from the seaboard, caused by the change from salt to fresh water. Among the number who were taken down was Perry himself, who was unable to perform active service for a week. As soon as he could take the deck again, he sailed for the second time to the mouth of the river, where it was learned that the new British ship Detroit was ready for duty. Failing to draw the enemy from his anchorage, Perry returned to Sandusky and renewed his communication with Gen. Harrison.

On the 6th of September, the entire American fleet, with the exception of the Ohio, which had been sent to Erie for provisions, etc., was anchored in Put-in-Bay. Believing that the crisis was near at hand, Perry, on the evening of the 7th, summoned his officers on board the Lawrence, announced his plan of battle, produced his fighting flag, arranged a code of signals, and issued his final instructions. On the 10th, at the rising of the sun, the lookout shouted the thrilling words, "Sail, ho!" and the men of the squadron, who were almost instantly astir, soon saw the British vessels, six in number, rise above the horizon. Still feeble from sickness as he was, Perry gave the signal immediately to get under way, adding that he was "determined to fight the enemy that day." The battle took place about ten miles north of Put-in-Bay, and the action began on the part of the Americans at five minutes before 12 o'clock. In less than four hours the boasted naval prowess of England had been swept from the lake; while the following famous dispatch to Gen. Harrison sent a thrill of patriotism through every loyal heart in the land.

UNITED STATES FLAGSHIP NIAGARA, September 10, 4 P. M.

Dear General:—We have met the enemy and they are ours; two ships, two brigs, one schooner and one sloop. Yours with great respect and esteem,

O. H. PERRY.

The battle of Lake Erie raised Perry from obscurity to world-wide renown. Congress passed a vote of thanks to him and his officers and men, and bestowed gold medals upon both Perry and Elliott. President Madison, in his message some time after, referred to the victory as one "never surpassed in luster." The thanks of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania were voted to Perry and Elliott, gold medals were ordered for both, and silver medals for those citizens of the State who served on board the squadron. In addition to these honors, the General Government granted silver medals and swords to the other living officers, a medal and sword to the nearest male relative of each of the dead commissioned officers, and three months' pay to all the petty officers, seamen, marines and infantry who fought on board the fleet. The British vessels were prized at $255,000, of which $12,750 went to Commodore Chauncey, $7,140 apiece to both Perry and Elliott, $2,295 to each Commander of a gunboat, Lieutenant, Sailing Master, and Captain of Marines, $811 to each midshipman, $447 to each petty officer, and $209 to each marine and sailor. Congress made a special grant of $5,000 to Perry, to make up for a defect in the law which excluded him from a portion of the prize money for his special command, making a total of $12,000, which was quite a fortune for those days.

As evidence that the rallying of the militia at Erie, in the summer of 1813, was a necessary military measure, we insert the following communication from Commodore Perry to Gen. Mead:

ERIE, October 22, 1813.

Dear Sir:—It may be some satisfaction to you and your deserving corps, to be informed that you did not leave your harvest fields, in August last, for the defense of this place, without cause. Since the capture of Gen. Proctor's baggage by Gen. Harrison, it is ascertained beyond doubt that an attack was at that time meditated on Erie; and the design was frustrated by the failure of Gen. Vincent to furnish the number of troops promised and deemed necessary. I have the honor to be, dear sir, your obedient servant,

O. H. PERRY.

MAJ. GEN. DAVID MEAD, Meadville.

The troubles experienced by Perry were shared, to some extent, by the officers of the land forces. The State Archives contain a letter sent by Gov. Snyder to Col. John Phillips, Paymaster of Col. Hill's regiment, in which he regrets that no provision had been made for paying the Pennsylvania militia then in service at Erie, and that it could not be remedied by any constituted State authority. On the 2d of August the Governor's Secretary wrote that

some men in Mead's Division had at first refused to obey orders, but subsequently marched to the defense of Erie. The difficulty about the pay of the troops seems to have been at least partially arranged, for, on the 16th of August we find that Wilson Smith was appointed Paymaster of the militia called into service by Gen. Mead for the defense of Erie, before the arrival of Col. Hill's command, and that a warrant for $2,500 had been forwarded to him. This gentleman had previously been Quartermaster-General of the State. On the 27th of August, Brigade Inspector Clark reported that upward of 1,600 men had rendezvoused at Erie in pursuance of the more recent orders of Gen. Mead. So little has been preserved in regard to the land operations of the day, that any account of them must necessarily be brief and disconnected; but there were few able-bodied male residents of the county who were not obliged to serve in the militia at some time during the war. The alarms were sent over the country by runners, who went from house to house, stirring up the inhabitants. It happened more than once that whole townships were nearly depopulated of their male citizens.

On the 30th of December, 1813, word reached Erie that an army of British and Indians had landed at Black Rock, forced our army to retreat, burned the villages of Black Rock and Buffalo, captured and destroyed the Government vessels, and, flushed with triumph, were advancing up the lake for the purpose of capturing Erie. The most terrifying rumors were put in circulation, and the excitement ran so high that many citizens removed their families and effects to the interior. The troops at Erie only numbered 2,000 men, while the hostile force was reported at 3,000. The first brigade of Gen. Mead's command was ordered into service, and came hurriedly together, increasing the defensive force to about 4,000. Happily, the alarm proved to be false, but one delusive report came after another so fast that a considerable body of troops was kept at Erie during most of the winter. Many of these men were substitutes, and all were poorly furnished with arms and equipments. On the 10th of January, 1814, the Governor notified the Secretary of War that a portion of Mead's command had been ordered out, and suggested that as they had rendered almost unremitting service during the past eighteen months, it would be nothing more than just to relieve them by "militia drawn from sections that had hitherto been excused by reason of their remoteness from the seat of war." A letter was received by the Governor on the 18th of January, from Gen. Mead, reciting that when Perry was ready to sail he was deficient in men; that he requested him to induce some of his troops to volunteer for service on the vessels, which 100 did, and that he promised they should receive pay as militiamen upon their return. To fulfill his pledge, the General borrowed $500, which he asked to have refunded. On the 18th of January, 1,000 militia from Cumberland and adjoining counties were ordered to rendezvous at Erie by the 8th of March, N. B. Boileau being appointed their Colonel commandant. February 1, Gen. Mead was directed to retain his detachment in service until the arrival of the above troops. A letter from the Governor's Secretary, of the date of February 17, refers to Gen. Mead's complaints that the troops of his command had not been paid on the 3d of March. Gov. Snyder wrote to Gen. Mead in reference to a requisition upon him by Maj. Martin, of the Regular army, for 2,000 men to defend Erie and the fleet, arguing that it was unnecessary, and refusing to give his assent.

These differences produced a certain lukewarmness in the hearts of many patriotic citizens, and it therefore became difficult to fill the decimated ranks of the regiments at the front. In May, 1814, Capt. John Morris opened a recruiting station at Meadville, for the 4th Regiment, United States Riflemen.

A bounty of $124 and 160 acres of land, also a premium of $8 was offered as an inducement in obtaining recruits for the service.

The following is a partial list of army officers from this and other counties of the Northwest, who participated in the war, most of whom made Erie their headquarters: Quartermaster-General, Wilson Smith, 1812–14. Commissary General, Collendar Irvine. Major-Generals, Sixteenth Division—David Mead, 1812–14; John Philips, 1814; Roger Alden, 1814–15. Brigadier-Generals, First Brigade, Sixteenth Division—John Kelso, 1812–14; Henry Hurst, 1814. Second Brigade—Thomas Graham, 1812. Brigade Inspector, First Brigade, Sixteenth Division—William Clark; Second Brigade, Samuel Powers. Paymaster, John Phillips, 1812–13. Col. David Nelson, Major and Lieutenant-Colonel, Dr. John C. Wallace, Majors Ralph Marling, James Herriott, Patrick Farrelly, John Brooks and William Moore. Commissaries, Rufus S. Reed, Stephen Wolverton, Capts. Isaac Mason, James Cochran, John Collom, Thomas Havlin and James McKnight.

Though a treaty of peace between the two nations was signed at Ghent, Belgium, December 24, 1814, the news did not reach the United States in time to prevent the battle of New Orleans, fought January 8, 1815, and which yet shines as one of the most brilliant victories in the history of the nation. Peace was publicly proclaimed on the 18th of February, 1815, and on that date the glad tidings reached Crawford County by an express, which had left Washington, D. C., the previous Tuesday for Erie, Penn., passing through Meadville in its route.

Many naval victories on the Atlantic marked the first year of the war; and though defeat, disaster and disgrace ushered in the opening scenes on land, especially in the West, the later events of the contest were a series of splendid achievements. Col. Croghan's gallant defense of Fort Stephenson, on the Sandusky River; Perry's sweeping victory on Lake Erie; the crushing defeat of the allied English and Indians under Gen. Proctor and Tecumseh, on the Thames, in Canada, by Harrison; the rout of the British under Riall at Chippewa and Lundy's Lane, on the Canadian side, near Niagara Falls, by Gens. Scott and Brown; the double victory of Commodore McDonough and Gen. Macomb by water and land, over Commodore Downie and Gen. Prevost, at Plattsburg, on Lake Champlain, together with scores of lesser land and naval victories, closing with the great triumph of Jackson at New Orleans, reflected the most brilliant luster on the American arms. The estimation in which the Pennsylvania troops were held by their commanders, is shown by an extract from a letter sent by Gen. Harrison to Gov. Snyder: "I can assure you," he writes, "there is no corps on which I rely with more confidence, not only for the fidelity of undaunted valor in the field, but for those virtues which are more rarely found amongst the militia—patience and fortitude under great hardships and deprivations—and cheerful obedience to all commands of their officers." In every phase of this struggle, the conduct of the citizens of northwestern Pennsylvania was patriotic and honorable. They volunteered with alacrity their services in the field; no troops more patiently endured hardships or performed better service, and many of the brave sons of Crawford County, sealed their devotion to their country with their life's blood.

Mexican War.—The war with Mexico made no great stir in Crawford County, and though a few of its citizens served in the army of invasion, no military organization was sent from this part of the State. Nevertheless the following action taken by its citizens is an evidence of how they stood at that time. According to previous notice given by Col. James Douglas, Commandant of the First Battalion, Crawford County Volunteers, said battalion

met for review and parade on the Diamond in Meadville, June 6, 1846, with a view of interchanging sentiments in relation to the war with Mexico. At an early hour the volunteers began pouring into Meadville, and by 11 o'clock A. M., the line was formed and reviewed. At 2 o'clock P. M. a mass meeting of volunteers and citizens convened in the court house yard, as the building was too small to hold all that desired to take part in the proceedings. Col. James Douglas was called to the chair, with Majors Torbett and Derickson, Vice Presidents, and Adjt. C. W. Burton and Capt. Sherred, Secretaries. Gen. Perkins, Capts. Derickson, Burton, Daniels and Wagoner, and privates Barron and Porter were appointed a committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. During the absence of the committee, the large assemblage was addressed on the war issues by Messrs. H. L. Richmond, William H. Davis, Col. James Cochran, D. M. Farrelly and M. B. Lowry. The committee having returned, reported a series of resolutions, which were adopted unanimously. They upheld the Government in its policy toward Mexico, and claimed that the United States had exhausted all honorable means to prevent hostilities, having submitted for many years to aggravated and multiplied wrongs, until forbearance ceased to be a virtue, and had no choice left but war. As illustrating the temper of the citizens of Crawford County, at that epoch in the history of the nation, we here give three of the six resolutions adopted at the meeting :

Resolved, That we approve of the course of Congress in promptly investing the President of the United States with authority and means to raise an army to meet our enemies and defend our soil—a less energetie course would have been a deep, burning, lasting disgrace.

Resolved, That while health and strength permit, we will stand by our country, and be ready at her call to bear arms in her defense; her national honor we will sustain at all hazards, and show to the world that as freemen we can and will repel aggression, come from what quarter of the globe it may. That we know our rights, and knowing them dare maintain them.

Resolved, That public expectation demands of the Government prompt and vigorous action: the war to be carried into the enemy's country, if no other means will insure a speedy peace.

Upon the adoption of the foregoing resolutions, the battalion again paraded on the Diamond, and at the call of Col. Douglas each of the six companies volunteered their services by marching ten paces to the front. The Meadville Light Dragoons, Capt. James Hamilton commanding, and the Meadville Grays, Capt. John Williams, commanding, belonged to this battalion. After offering their services, and pledging themselves as ever ready to respond to a call to arms, the men broke ranks and returned to their homes.

CHAPTER XVII.

CRAWFORD COUNTY IN THE WAR OF THE REBELLION—PATRIOTIC FEELING AMONG ITS PEOPLE—MEETINGS HELD TO DENOUNCE TREASON AND UPHOLD THE GOVERNMENT—FIRST VOLUNTEERS SENT TO THE FRONT—ERIE REGIMENT—THIRTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT, NINTH RESERVE—THIRTY-NINTH REGIMENT, TENTH RESERVE—FIFTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT—FIFTY-NINTH REGIMENT, SECOND CAVALRY—EIGHTY-THIRD REGIMENT—ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH REGIMENT—ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH REGIMENT, TWELFTH CAVALRY—ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIXTH REGIMENT—ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT—ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIFTH REGIMENT—ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH REGIMENT—ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THIRD REGIMENT, EIGHTEENTH CAVALRY—ONE HUNDRED AND NINETIETH AND NINETY-FIRST REGIMENTS—TWO HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH REGIMENT—CLOSE OF THE WAR.

WHEN the news of the firing on Fort Sumter flashed over the wires, a deep feeling of patriotic indignation filled the hearts of the loyal millions of the North, and in nearly every city, town and hamlet, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, meetings were held for the purpose of giving public expression to that feeling. Crawford County was not behind the balance of the nation in this respect, for the news had scarcely grown cold, before its citizens assembled in its several towns and passed resolutions of fealty to the Union. Meadville being the seat of justice, the action taken by her citizens will be a fair illustration of the sentiment which prevailed throughout the county during that momentous period in the history of the nation. Everyone seemed to realize that a struggle for national existence was at hand, and in response to President Lincoln's call for 75,000 volunteers, men of all parties, irrespective of political ties, assembled at the court house on the evenings of Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 18, 19 and 20, 1861, and evinced a firm determination to stand by our time-honored flag. The meeting on Friday evening was addressed by James E. McFarland, Esq., Hon. John P. Davis, William Reynolds, Esq., D. V. Derickson, Esq., and many others. On motion James E. McFarland, John W. Howe, C. A. Derickson, William Davis, Jr., and James R. Dick were appointed a committee to procure subscriptions to equip the Meadville company of volunteers, and aid their families if necessary. On Saturday evening the meeting organized by electing John H. Mattocks, President; T. J. Limber and William Thorp, Vice-Presidents, and J. H. Lenhart, Secretary. David M. Farrelly was called upon to address the meeting, and in an able, eloquent and patriotic speech, aroused the enthusiam of the audience to the highest pitch. On motion of D. V. Derickson, the following resolution was adopted amidst great cheering:

Resolved, That for the purpose of showing the loyalty and patriotism of our entire people, the occupants of every house in this place and community be requested to display the Stars and Stripes.

This was followed by a rousing speech from Judge Marvin, of New York, after which the meeting adjourned, the audience dispersed to their homes imbued with the feeling that the Government and the Union should be preserved all hazards.

On Monday evening, April 22d, a very large and enthusiastic audience

assembled at the court house on only a few hours' notice, all being anxious to be found on the side of the Government. Hon. David Derickson was chosen President, and Gen. John Dick and Col. J. W. Douglas, Vice-presidents of the meeting. Judge Derickson stated briefly the object of the meeting, and spoke of the necessity of thinking and acting for the defense of our flag and Constitution. He said it was not a party question, but a question as to whether a Republican Government should be maintained. On motion of Henry C. Johnson, Esq., the following gentlemen were appointed a committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting: Alfred Huidekoper, Esq., Henry C. Johnson, Esq., Joseph Derickson, Esq., Thomas R. Kennedy, Esq., and R. H. Guinnip, Esq. During the absence of this committee the audience was addressed by Hon. John W. Howe. The resolutions were then presented to the meeting and patriotically responded to by Alfred Huidekoper, Esq., H. L. Richmond, Esq., Hon. S. N. Pettis and Henry C. Johnson, Esq., whose remarks elicited great applause, whereupon the resolutions were adopted unanimously. They read as follows:

WHEREAS, A state of war exists between those who are in favor of the Constitution, the laws, and the integrity of the States, and those who are arrayed in arms against the Government, the indivisibility of the Union, and the National Flag, therefore, be it

Resolved, That when the American flag is fired upon and forced to be lowered from its rightful place over an American fort, and when armed resistance is made to the Constitution of our common country, and to the enforcement of her laws, there can be but one of two positions, and no half-way point—either for or against our country.

Resolved, That levying war against the United States, or adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort, is treason; and that those citizens who levy war against the Government, or adhere to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort, are legally and morally traitors.

Resolved, That the exigencies of the times demand that every true patriot should boldly, distinctly and at once, decline his position as on the side of his country; and that he should firmly denounce treason and sternly discountenance traitors.

Resolved, That we are neither Democrats nor Republicans, but the friends of our country, and that those who attempt to prostitute party names to disguise their treason, while rebels tear down the American flag, are, nevertheless, traitors who will be shunned by patriots and denounced and disowned by their own posterity, as were the Tories of the Revolution, and against whose doubly-damned memories, the slow finger of scorn will be pointed in all coming time.

Resolved, That it is the duty of all patriots by prompt and spontaneous action to give nations abroad the assurance, and traitors at home the admonition, that we have a Government which is capable of repelling invasion from without and of resenting and punishing insult to our flag within.

Resolved, That we will favor by all consistent means in our power the raising and equipment of volunteer companies to be tendered to the service of the Government in the present exigencies.

A committee consisting of James Hamilton, Richard W. Derickson and Thomas R. Kennedy was appointed to enroll names as volunteers, and report to the Chairman. Intense enthusiasm was exhibited throughout the whole proceedings, and the meeting adjourned with three cheers for the Union, and three for the Stars and Stripes. The scenes daily taking place in Meadville at this time can never be forgotten. Volunteers drilling and marching, bands playing, the National banner conspicuously displayed at all available points, and everyone talking war. On Saturday, April 27, the Meadville company of volunteers established a camp at the fair grounds on the Island, and on the following Sunday afternoon, the Stars and Stripes was raised on the ground by Col. Cameron, of Toronto, Canada, in whose honor the camp was named "Camp Cameron." Before the end of April, five companies had been raised in Crawford County, and their services tendered to the Governor, viz.: the Meadville Volunteers, Capt. Henry C. Johnson, 95 men; Allegheny College Volunteers, Capt. Ira Ayer, 78 Men; Conneautville Rifles, Capt. J. L. Dunn,

80 men; Titusville Volunteers, Capt. Charles B. Morgan, 100 men; Spartansburg Volunteers, 80 men; while other companies were being rapidly recruited. The commands of Captains Dunn and Morgan, rendezvoused at Camp Wayne, near Erie, where they were mustered into the Erie Regiment. D. V. Derickson went to Harrisburg to get Capt. Johnson's company accepted in the Erie regiment, and obtained an order to that effect, but before his return the regiment was filled up. The Meadville Volunteers, under Capt. Samuel B. Dick, Capt. Johnson having resigned, were subsequently mustered into the Thirty-Eighth Regiment; while Capt. Ayer's Company joined the Thirty-Ninth Regiment. Over $3,000 were raised in Meadville to fit out Capt. Johnson's company, and to assist the families of volunteers. This command left Meadville for Pittsburgh, May 2, 1861. The whole town turned out to greet their departure, and the scene was one of the wildest enthusiasm, cheers and heart-felt prayers mingling together, as the vehicles which carried the command to Linesville left the camp-ground. The rising of the North is grandly described in the following stanzes, which we find unclaimed and uncredited in the *Crawford Journal*, of May 7, 1861:

Thank God! the death-like, strange repose,
The horrid paralytic rest
Is ended, and a Nation's breast,
Fired with the old-time spirit glows!

A people long grown servile-necked
With bowing under mammon's yoke,
Its bondage on a sudden broke,
To-day stands haughtily erect.

It is as when the valley heaped
With dry bones, at the Prophet's word,
A wind miraculous had stirred;
Such Life from seeming Death has leaped!

No more supine, while traitorous foes
Trample her rights, her prowess mock,
But, roused for Battle's rudest shock,
When Sumter fell the North arose!

The following sketches of the regiments wherein the great majority of the soldiers from this county were enrolled, have been compiled mainly from the "History of Pennsylvania Volunteers," prepared by Prof. Samuel P. Bates, of Meadville, under the auspices of the State. We have also consulted soldiers of Crawford County, who served in the war, and have taken much pains to make these regimental sketches both concise and reliable.

Erie Regiment.—The Wayne Guard, a volunteer company organized at Erie, by Capt. John W. McLane in 1859, was the nucleus of this regiment. On the 21st of April, 1861, Capt. McLane issued a call for three months' volunteers for immediate service in the National army. In four days 1,200 men from the counties of Erie, Crawford and Warren had assembled at Camp Wayne, Erie, and on the 27th of April, an election for field officers was held, all of whom were chosen from Erie. Two companies of this regiment were from Crawford County: Company D, Capt. J. L. Dunn, recruited at Conneautville, and Company F, Charles B. Morgan, at Titusville. On the 28th of April, the regiment left for Pittsburgh, where, at the fair grounds, a short distance above the city, it formed Camp Wilkins. It was the first organized regiment to arrive at Pittsburgh, and Camp Wilkins was made a general camp of rendezvous for volunteers from the western portion of the State. After six weeks spent at Camp Wilkins in learning the art of war, a new camp site was selected some

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twelve miles up the Allegheny River, near Hulton Station, and named Camp Wright. The regiment remained at this point until the term of service for which it had been called to the field had expired, when it returned to Erie without having seen the enemy; but the drill of Camps Wilkins and Wright were the schools in which they learned the rudiments, and became well grounded in the art, which they practiced in the regiments which they afterward joined.

Thirty-eighth Regiment, Ninth Reserve.—This regiment was organized on the 28th of June 1861, at Camp Wright, on the Allegheny River, twelve miles above Pittsburgh. The organization was effected under the direction of Gen. McCall. Crawford County furnished one company of this regiment, Company F, raised in Meadville, and commanded by Capt. Samuel B. Dick. On the 22d of July, the regiment was ordered to Washington, where on the 28th it was mustered into the United States service. From the 9th to the 16th of September, it was on picket duty at Great Falls, on the Potomac, and here for the first time encountered and exchanged shots with the rebels, who held the opposite bank of the river. The regiment broke camp October 9, and crossed into Virginia, where it occupied a position on the extreme right of the Army of the Potomac. In the organization of the the corps, the regiment was assigned to the Third Brigade. It next engaged at Dranesville on the 20th of December, losing two killed and twenty wounded. For gallant conduct in this battle, Capt. Dick, of Company F, and a number of others, were officially noticed by Gen. Ord in his report. The regiment now went into permanent winter quarters, and did not break camp until the following March, when it joined the main division at Falls Church. The Reserves were soon afterward attached to Gen. McDowell's Corps, under whom they remained until ordered to the Peninsula, where they were assigned to the corps commanded by Gen. Fitz John Porter.

On the 26th of June the regiment took part in the battle of Mechanicsville, and at Gaines' Mill on the following day fought like veterans, charging and repelling charges with heroic valor. At the juncture of the New Market, Charles City and Quaker Cross Roads, a large rebel force on the 30th of June attempted to break through the Union line. The Ninth Reserve was posted in support of Cooper's Battery, which was repeatedly charged, but the rebels were as often swept back by the withering fire of the battery and its gallant support. During a short interval the Ninth was withdrawn from its position to support a battery on the left, and the enemy, seeing this, charged upon Cooper's Battery and captured it. At this juncture the Ninth returned to its place, and finding the guns in the hands of the rebels, charged upon and re-captured them. In this charge William J. Gallagher, of Company F which was raised in Meadville, captured the standard of the Tenth Alabama, killing the rebel color-bearer. Earlier in the battle William Tawney, of Company I captured a rebel flag, and saved the standard of the Seventh Regiment from falling into the hands of the enemy, gallantly carrying both flags off the field. After this battle the Ninth was engaged in picket duty until the withdrawal of the Army of the Potomac from the Peninsula to join the Army of Northern Virginia, under Gen. Pope. On the 29th and 30th of August, 1862, the Ninth took part in the disastrous battle of Bull Run, losing heavily on account of its exposed position, being on the extreme left flank of the Union line. On the 31st it was again engaged with the enemy near Chantilly, the battle raging furiously from 5 o'clock in the afternoon until night put an end to the contest. The Ninth now retired to Arlington Heights, where it arrived with about one-half the strength it took into the field some five months before.

After but two days' rest the regiment again took the field, and on the 14th of September participated in the battle of South Mountain, the Ninth being commanded in the latter part of the contest by Capt. Dick, of Company F. On the 16th and 17th the Ninth, still under the command of Capt. Dick, took part in the bloody battle of Antietam, losing sixteen killed and sixty-eight wounded. The Ninth next participated in Burnside's assault on Fredericksburg December 13, where the regiment did excellent service in picking off the rebel sharp-shooters and the gunners from a battery commanding the left flank of the division. This battery had been inflicting terrible slaughter on the Union forces, but it was completely silenced by the sure marksmen of the Ninth, which lost 9 killed, 27 wounded and 16 prisoners during the fight. The regiment was soon afterwards assigned to the defenses of Washington to re-organize and recruit its shattered ranks. Its next battle was Gettysburg, where the Ninth suffered but trifling loss, on account of holding a secure position unexposed to the leaden tempest which swept over the field. The regiment joined the army in pursuit of Lee on his retreat from Gettysburg, and was with Gen. Meade in his manœuvres to again bring the rebel chieftan to battle in Virginia. This was the last active service of the gallant Ninth. The winter was passed in camp recruiting their depleted ranks and preparing for the spring campaign, and on the 4th of May, while standing in the front line in the wilderness ready for battle, the regiment was ordered to Washington, its term of service having expired, and was mustered out at Pittsburgh, May 13, 1864.

Thirty-ninth Regiment, Tenth Reserve.—Closely allied in the field with the Ninth Reserve, this regiment won its undying honors upon the same historic fields. It was largely composed of intelligent and educated men, but of little previous military experience. Company I, commanded by Capt. Ira Ayer, was raised at Meadville, and contained a large number of students of Allegheny College. The companies rendezvoused at Camp Wilkins, near Pittsburgh, and the regiment was organized during the last days of June, 1861. On the 1st of July it moved up the Allegheny River to Camp Wright, whence it proceeded to Harrisburg, where on the 21st of July it was mustered into the United States service. The regiment left for Baltimore on the following day, and on the 24th proceeded to Washington, and encamped about a mile east of the Capitol, where it remained until the 1st of August, when it removed to the camp at Tenallytown. Its first duty was performed on the picket-line at Great Falls, on the Potomac. The Tenth was assigned to the Third Brigade, and October 10 moved into Virginia, and took position in line with the army. On the 20th of December the rebels were met by Gen. Ord's brigade at Dranesville, and here the regiment received its "baptism of fire," the enemy being routed and driven from the field.

The Tenth saw no more fighting until the following summer, when having been sent to the Peninsula to reinforce McClellan's army, it was attached to Gen. Fitz John Porter's Corps, and participated in the battle of Mechanicsville, which was fought on the 26th of June, 1862. Here the regiment did gallant service, and repulsed the attacks of the enemy with terrible slaughter, while its own line, being in a favored position, was everywhere preserved intact, and a joyful exultation was felt by these brave boys when night put an end to the battle. On the following day Gaines' Mill was fought, but the Tenth was not engaged until half-past 3 in the afternoon. Its position was twice changed, while the battle raged with fury along the entire line About 4 o'clock the regiment was ordered further to the left, where it was brought under a heavy fire. Soon the order came to charge, and with resistless power it

swept forward and driving the rebels before them occupied an advanced position against every attempt to dislodge it until ordered to retire. Night soon put an end to the contest, and closing up its broken ranks the regiment retired across the Chickahominy. In this engagement the loss was heavy, Company I alone losing six men killed, three missing and seventeen wounded.

At the battle fought June 30, around the junction of the New Market, Charles City and Quaker Cross Roads, the brigade, of which the Tenth formed a part, made a gallant counter charge, which broke the rebel ranks and drove them from the open field back to the cover of their guns. In this struggle the Tenth captured sixty prisoners and a stand of colors. The enemy, however, soon rallied, made a sudden attack, and drove the union lines back in disorder to the cover of a protecting woods, and with the coming of night the worn out and exhausted troops of the Reserves lay down to rest on nearly the same ground occupied by them at the beginning of the battle. During the night they were aroused from their weary slumbers and moved to Malvern Hill, but did not participate in the battle fought there on the following day. The loses of the Tenth in the series of battles beginning at Mechanicsville, was over two hundred.

From the James the command was transferred to the Rappahannock, and thence from the Peninsula to the army of Gen. Pope, under whom it served in the second Bull Run battle, August 29 and 30, 1862, and also at Chantilly on the 31st, losing twelve killed, thirty-four wounded, and nineteen missing in that disastrous defeat of the union arms. It next met the enemy at South Mountain, September 14th, where it fought its way to the summit of the ridge, driving the rebels before it, and gallantly sharing in the victory there won, its loss being four killed and fourteen wounded. On the 16th and 17th of September we find the Tenth fighting bravely at Antietam; and again in the fruitless attack on Fredericksburg on December 13, it was distinguished for gallantry and bravery. In the latter battle its loss was severe, being eleven killed, seventy-five wounded and fifty-one captured. Soon after Burnside's second attempt on Fredericksburg, the Tenth was ordered to the defenses at Washington to rest and recruit, some of the companies being unable to muster more than three or four men for parade. On the 26th of June, 1863, the Tenth was again ordered to the front, and July 1st, 2d and 3d was engaged in the terrible battle of Gettysburg, and shared in the final triumph of the union forces over Lee's army. It also took part in the subsequent pursuit of Lee, and the manœuvers of Gen. Meade to bring the Rebel general to action. The regiment spent the winter at Manassas Junction, and the following April joined Grant's army near Culpepper. The terrible battles of the Wilderness soon followed in which the Tenth participated. This was their last campaign, and on the 11th of June, 1864, the remnants of this gallant regiment was mustered out at Pittsburgh. Many of the Tenth re-enlisted as veterans, though the majority settled down to peaceful avocations and the enjoyment of those rights which their valor on the battle-field had helped to re-establish on a firm basis.

Fifty-seventh Regiment.—Recruiting for this regiment commenced early in September 1861, the men rendezvousing in companies and squads at Camp Curtin, where a regimental organization was effected. Company K, commanded by Capt. Cornelius S. Chase, was originally recruited for an independent company of sharp-shooters, but not being accepted, joined the Fifty-seventh. On the 14th of December the regiment moved to Washington; but before leaving Camp Curtin considerable sickness had prevailed among the men, and the new camp located on low, wet ground still further tended to decimate their ranks. In February 1862, the Fifty-seventh crossed the Potomac, and

was assigned to Heintzelman's Corps, and on the 17th of March it embarked for Fortress Monroe, and went into camp near the village of Hampton. Its first active operations was in the siege of Yorktown, where large numbers were rendered unfit for service and many died from the deadly malaria and the excessive labor in the trenches constructed through the swamps and marshes surrounding that village. In fact so destructive was the climatic exposure that about one-half of the Fifty-seventh were sent to the hospital or discharged. A short engagement occurred before Yorktown on the evening of April 11, 1862, in which the regiment participated. On the 4th of May it marched to Williamsburg, where it arrived just as the fighting ceased. It here performed picket duty until the 7th, then moved to Cumberland Landing, on the Pamunkey, and for ten days acted as guard to the supplies stored there.

The regiment now rejoined the brigade at Baltimore Store, and on the 24th crossed the Chickahominy. On the 31st the Fifty-seventh made a forced march to the battle-field of Fair Oaks, and was soon hotly engaged, and by desperate fighting Heintzelman's corps, to which the regiment belonged, succeeded in staying the rout of Casey's Division. In this battle Capt. Chase of Company K received a mortal wound, the Fifty-seventh losing eleven killed and forty-nine wounded. Again the swamp fevers raged throughout the camp, which was in the midst of a marsh, carrying many of these brave boys to the hospital and the grave. During the battles of Mechanicsville and Gaines' Mill, the regiment skirmished with the enemy, but on the 30th of June, 1862, it was fiercely attacked at Charles City Cross Roads, and though assaulted again and again by the rebel hosts, every assault was repulsed with great slaughter, the conduct of the Fifty-seventh winning the highest praise from the brave and gallant Gen. Kearney. The regiment lost in this battle seven killed and fifty-six wounded, most of whom fell into the hands of the enemy, who in the beginning of the fight took the advantage by a sudden attack. On the following day the Fifty-seventh fought at Malvern Hill, with a loss of two killed and eight wounded.

On the morning succeeding Malvern Hill, the regiment marched to Harrison's Landing. It presented a marked contrast to its appearance three months before when it marched forth to battle one thousand strong, while now but fifty-six effective men could answer the roll-call. Malaria and severe duty in the trenches had proven more deadly than the bullet, but rest and good nursing soon restored the regiment to its original efficiency, and it was once again ready for duty. Leaving the Peninsula it joined Pope's army at Bealton Station, and was engaged at Bull Run and Chantilly, the gallant Kearney riding to death on that ill-fated field. Four companies of the Fifty-seventh were sent under a flag of truce to receive his body from the Rebels and bring it into the Union lines. The regiment was next stationed at Conrad's Ferry, on the Patomac, where it remained a month, being a portion of the forces detailed to attempt the capture of the rebel Gen. Stuart, on his return from his raid to Chambersburg.

Gen. Burnside now came to the head of the Army of the Potomac and began the campaign that ended in the assault on Fredericksburg and the defeat of the Union forces, December 13, 1862. The Fifty-seventh went into the engagement with 316 men, and lost twenty-one killed, seventy-six wounded and seventy-eight missing. The winter was passed in camp opposite Fredericksburg, where the Fifty-seventh rested and recruited its strength for the coming spring campaign. On the 28th of April, 1863, the army, now under the command of Gen. Hooker, moved towards Chancellorsville, where, on the morning of May 2d the battle opened furiously. The rebels were

again victorious, and on the 6th, the army, defeated and humiliated, re-crossed the Rappahannock, and the Fifty-seventh returned to its old camping-ground having lost two officers and eleven men killed, three officers and forty-five men wounded, and twenty-three missing.

On the morning of June 11, 1863, the regiment broke camp, and marched on the Gettysburg campaign, arriving in time to participate in the terrible battle fought around the village of Gettysburg in the opening days of July. Here the Rebel army, under its most able general put forth its strength to crush the Union forces, commanded by the brave, but cautious Meade, only to retire humbled, crestfallen and baffled before the loyal sons of the nation. The loss of the Fifty-seventh in this battle was 12 killed, 45 wounded, and 47 missing. The regiment took part in the pursuit of Lee to Williamsport, and the subsequent movements of the army in the valley of Virginia, participating in several skirmishes with the enemy. On the 2d of December it went into winter quarters near Culpepper, where on the 24th, more than two-thirds of the regiment veteranized; and on the 8th of January, 1864, the whole command departed on veteran furlough. After an absence of forty-nine days the veterans returned to camp, bringing with them a large number of recruits, to take the place of those who did not re-enlist.

The Fifty-seventh began its spring campaign near the old field of Chancellorsville, where about 4 o'clock on the afternoon of May 4th, it met the enemy near the junction of the Brock and Plank Roads, where a furious battle opened, which lasted until dark, resulting in a loss to the regiment of 22 killed, 128 wounded and 3 missing. On the following day the fighting was renewed, the enemy for a time, driving everything before him, but failing in his assault upon the Union breastwork, along the Brock Road. On the 12th, the Second Corps, of which the Fifty-seventh formed a part, surprised and captured the rebel Gen. Johnson, with his entire division. In the fighting on the 12th, the regiment lost in killed, wounded and missing, thirty of its command. From Spotsylvania to the James River the regiment was was marching, fighting and entrenching almost constantly. At North Anna and Cold Harbor, it was in the front line of battle, and in these and other minor engagements, from the 12th of May until the 14th of June, the regiment sustained considerable loss.

In the assault on Petersburg, June 18th, the Fifty-seventh did its duty; and whether on the field of battle or in the trenches, displayed that spirit of obedience and steady courage which characterizes the veteran. The summer and fall of 1864 was passed by the Fifty-seventh driving back the foe, establishing new lines, and erecting fortifications. On the 25th of October, the rebels, under Mahone, fiercely attacked the corps, but was repulsed and driven back. The regiment was also engaged in the raid on the Weldon Railroad. In January, 1865, it was consolidated with the Eighty-fourth Regiment, which restored the Fifty-seventh to something like its pristine strength. In the rebel assault upon Fort Steadman, March 25, 1865, the re-organized regiment was conspicuous for its gallantry, capturing over 100 prisoners. The end of the war was now close at hand. Petersburg was evacuated on the 3d of April, and the Rebel army was trying desperately to escape from Grant. The effort was in vain, and on the 9th Lee surrendered, and was soon followed by Johnston. The Fifty-seventh participated in the closing scenes of the great drama, and was mustered out of service, June 22, 1865, at Alexandria, Va.

Fifty-ninth Regiment (*Second Cavalry.*)—This regiment was recruited in the fall of 1861, Company I (Capt. Richard C. Johnson) being raised in Craw-

ford County. From Camp Patterson, its place of rendezvous near Philadelphia, the regiment proceeded to Washington, which it reached on the 25th of April, 1862, and was there mounted and equipped for active service. It is not our intention to follow its fortunes closely from the 27th of June, when it crossed the Potomac into Virginia, until the close of the war. The Second Cavalry shed its first blood near Sperryville, Va., on the 7th of August, 1862. It was constantly scouting and skirmishing, as the enemy, leaving McClellan at Harrison's Landing, moved and battled with Pope at Bull Run and Centreville. The Second guarded the stone bridge at Centreville, repelled Stuart's attack upon the wagon train at Chantilly, fought at Warrenton, and maintained unequal battle and defeat on the Occoquan with the forces of Wade Hampton. Again they are employed to check the stragglers at Gettysburg and return them to the fight, convoy prisoners and follow the retreat of Lee. They engage the cavalry of Fitz Hugh Lee and drive them from point to point, and again defeat the enemy at Parker's Store and Todd's Tavern. They form part of the command led by Sheridan which destroyed railroads and provisions, released prisoners, and carried consternation to the occupants of Richmond. They took part in the fight at Hawes' Shop, where Sheridan's cavalry routed the combined forces of Hampton and Fitz Hugh Lee. After crossing the Rapidan the Fifty-ninth took part in sixteen general actions, and suffered heavy losses in killed, wounded and captured, reducing its strength to about two hundred. Its subsequent career is closely identified with the history of the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac. It participated in the engagements at Wyatt's Farm, Boydton Plank Road, McDowell's Hill and Five Forks, and witnessed the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. It took part in the grand review at Washington, May 23, 1865, and on the 17th of June was consolidated with the Twentieth Pennsylvania Cavalry, forming the First Pennsylvania Provisional Cavalry, which was mustered out at Cloud's Mills, Va., on the 13th of July, 1865. The record of the Second Cavalry is untarnished and unfading. Its ranks were filled up three times during the period of its enlistment, and Pennsylvania carefully preserves its war-worn banner, and has inscribed on its folds the historic memories of the gallant regiment who so often carried it to victory.

Eighty-third Regiment.—This gallant command was organized at Camp McLane, near Erie, and there mustered into the service September 8, 1861. Nearly 300 of the Erie Regiment enlisted in the new organization. Crawford County furnished four companies: Company A, from Titusville, Capt. Charles B. Morgan; Companies B and F, from Meadville, Capts. John F. Morris and DeWitt C. McCoy; and Company H, from Conneautville, Capt. Phineas B. Carpenter. On the 18th of September the regiment left for Washington, where it was armed and uniformed. The regiment soon became noted for its soldierly appearance and proficiency of drill, Gen. McClellan once complimenting it as "one of the very best regiments in the army." It was assigned to the Third Brigade of Porter's Division, and received a rigid course of instruction and discipline. The regiment remained encamped in front of Washington until the 10th of March, 1862, when the whole army began its forward movement, the Eighty-third arriving at Fairfax Court House toward evening. The enemy having retreated, the army now turned toward the Peninsula, the Eighty-third reaching Hampton by boat from Alexandria, March 24th. The regiment took part in the siege of Yorktown, and in the pursuit of the rebels after they evacuated their fortifications and retreated up the Peninsula. It encountered the enemy at Hanover Court House, and Ashland Road, and in both contests put them to flight.

On the 27th of June, 1862, Lee began the movement which resulted in the seven days' fight before Richmond. At Gaines' Mill the Eighty-third was in line on the extreme left, fronting the west, and, by the wise forethought of Col. McLane, who raised and commanded the regiment, a breast-work of logs was hastily thrown up along its front. Company A, now in command of Capt. Sigler, had been sent out early as skirmishers, and later was relieved by Company B, Capt. Morris, who was soon after severely wounded. A heavy fire of artillery opened on the Union line, and the Rebel infantry were seen advancing, driving the skirmishers before them. When in range a volley crashed among them from the Eighty-third, and the artillery above them poured in a rapid fire. The enemy moved steadily on. One and another color-bearer caught the standard only to be shot down. Three several times the attack was renewed, and as often repulsed. On the right the enemy beat back the line, and the brigade was in danger of being flanked. Quickly changing front at right angles to its first line, it met a heavy attack without the shelter of the breastwork, and lost many men. Col. McLane here fell dead from a bullet, and Maj. Naghel was mortally wounded by a piece of shell. The line stood fast and repelled the enemy from its front. The latter, marching by, gained the rear of the brigade. The Eighty-third changed front once more and faced eastward. The enemy were now on all sides except on the river front. A retreat in column was not possible, and, by command, the regiment broke ranks for the Chickahominy. A concentrated fire of artillery met them as they crossed the bridge upon the sleepers and swept them down. Five hundred and fifty went into the battle, and two hundred and sixty-five were killed, wounded or captured.

The army now retreated to the James, and in the battle around Charles City Cross Roads, June 30, the Eighty-third supported Griffin's Battery, which silenced the enemy's guns and drove them from the field. During the night the regiment was on picket duty, and on the following day fought in the battle of Malvern Hill. From 4 to 6 o'clock on the afternoon of July 1, the regiment was under a heavy artillery fire, and was then hurried to the front to support a battery which was in danger of falling into the hands of the enemy. Here for two hours the battle raged with fury, but though exposed to a murderous fire, the line of the Eighty-third was maintained with great gallantry and courage, the regiment losing some forty killed and one hundred and ten wounded.

Soon after this campaign had closed, the army was transferred to the command of Gen. Pope. The battles of Bull Run and Chantilly quickly followed, and resulted in the defeat of the Union forces. The Eighty-third lost in these battles twenty killed and between fifty and sixty wounded. Its next battle was Antietam, but the corps to which the regiment belonged was not much engaged. On the 13th of December, 1862, at the close of the day of Fredericksburg, the Eighty-third was ordered to the front line to relieve troops which had attempted to carry the enemy's intrenchments. Leaving the town and forming in line, it faced a fiery ordeal from artillery, and advanced to within a few hundred yards of the enemy's lines and halted; the regiment lay down and opened fire, but soon ceased, and later found shelter behind the brow of a neighboring hill. After spending thirty hours at the front the regiment returned to the village, having lost in the interval six killed and thirty wounded. Wintering near Fredericksburg, the Eighty-third moved on the Chancellorsville campaign, April 29, 1863, but took no active part in that battle, though somewhat engaged on the skirmish line and throwing up fortifications.

The army started on the Gettysburg campaign about the middle of June,

and on the 21st and when near Aldie, a small force of Rebel cavalry were met and routed by the brigade to which the Eighty-third belonged. Early on the morning of July 2, the regiment arrived on the memorable battle-field of Gettysburg, and formed in line to support of artillery posted on the center. Col. Vincent, in command of the brigade in which was the Eighty-third, was ordered toward evening to move quickly to the support of artillery at Little Round Top, a rugged hill, the key to the Union position. The regiment had scarcely taken position, the soldiers seeking the rocks for shelter, when a mass of Longstreet's Corps, led by Hood, came yelling frightfully and moving on the double-quick, struck the Union Center. Rapid, well-aimed volleys of musketry greeted the onset and checked its progress. The enemy moved to the left, meeting heroic resistance. A steady fire from the brigade told upon the Rebels, and when a charge was made by the Union infantry, supported by a brigade of reserves, the Eighty-third dashed forward and captured seventy-four prisoners, and over 300 stand of arms. The brigade remained masters of the field, and the position was not again seriously menaced. The loss of the regiment in this battle was slight, considering the slaughter inflicted on the enemy, being only eight killed and thirty-eight wounded, of whom six afterward died. Col. Vincent fell mortally wounded in the thickest of the fight. Capt. McCoy, of Company F, from Meadville, came to the head of the regiment as Lieutenant-Colonel, and gallantly lead it in the battles of the Wilderness.

During the fall of 1863, about 400 men, mostly inefficient, were received by the regiment, and during the winter 169 men were re-enlisted. The regiment passed the winter behind the Rappahannock, and on May 5 are seen in the Wilderness, making a gallant charge of three-quarters of a mile, driving the enemy before them. Warren's Corps, in which was the Eighty-third, moved on the night of May 7 toward Spottsylvania. When six miles from that place the enemy were found in line across the road. The Eighty-third, on the right of the road, and the Forty-fourth on the left, covered by a section of a battery were advanced to drive them. Upon the brow of a hill they met and drove in the Rebel skirmishers, and learned that the enemy were present in force; still they advanced, quickening their pace to a double-quick and with bayonets fixed. Approaching a wood, the enemy, protected by a breastwork of logs and rails, and far superior in numbers, opened a deadly fire. The Eighty-third dashed bravely upon the breastwork, and, fighting hand to hand, used the murderous bayonet. Some of the men crossed the entrenchment, and fought with a valor worthy of the cause to drive the foe. For half an hour these two heroic regiments maintained their ground, and, retiring scarcely eighty rods, threw up breastworks. Fifty killed, and above a hundred wounded and captured, attest the severity of the contest. On this occasion Corporal Vogus, of Company G, who had saved the colors at the Wilderness battle, proved himself a hero. While on the charge he was struck, and fell with the colors. Corporal John Lillibridge seized them to carry them forward, but Vogus, recovering, took the flag and planted it on the Rebel breastwork; a shot struck him in the breast, and while falling he flung the colors to the rear, where they were rescued by Corporal Daniel Jones, of Company F, and subsequently carried from the field by a soldier of the Forty-fourth, to whom Jones handed them, after being himself severely wounded. From its entrance into the fight of May 5th, until the close of this engagement, the regiment had lost over 300 men.

On the 23d of May, at North Anna, Lieut.-Col. McCoy, at the head of the Eighty-third, flanked a Rebel column under Brown, captured that officer,

and routed his forces, and assisted in taking nearly 1,000 prisoners. At Noel's Station the regiment exchanged shots with the enemy; at Bethesda Church, was exposed to a heavy fire, and on the 16th of June, 1864, crossed the James, and joined in the siege of Petersburg. For months afterward a never-ceasing rattle of musketry prevailed in front of its breastworks. Entrenching and fortifying, the days passed until September 18, when about 100 of the Eighty-third were mustered out, and the balance organized into a battalion of six companies. On the 30th of September the regiment fought at Poplar Grove Church, and carried Fort McRea by assault. The same evening it suffered severely at Peeble's Farm, and in December participated in the raid on the Weldon Railroad. It then went into winter quarters on the Jerusalem Plank Road, and on the 6th of February, 1865, is found in the thickest of the fight at Hatcher's Run. The 29th of March inaugurated the beginning of the end. Jones' Farm, White Oak Road, Gravelly Run, Five Forks, Southerland Station, Jettersville, and the final pursuit and surrender at Appomattox, in all of which the Eighty-third participated, followed in quick succession, and closed the great struggle for national unity. The regiment was engaged in twenty-five battles, and always sustained its reputation for valor and endurance. It was mustered out at Washington, June 28, and finally disbanded at Harrisburg, on the 4th of July, 1865, having proudly recorded on its banner two more battles than any other infantry regiment of Pennsylvania.

One Hundred and Eleventh Regiment.—The recruits of this regiment rendezvoused in squads at Camp Reed, near Erie; were there mustered into service, and on the 24th of January, 1862, a regimental organization was effected. Though Crawford County is credited with a portion of the men forming this regiment there were none of the companies raised within her boundaries. We will, however, briefly give the principal campaigns in which it participated. It was armed and equipped at Harrisburg, January 28, 1862, whence it proceeded to Baltimore, and about the middle of May was sent to Harper's Ferry to re-inforce Gen. Banks' command. Its first skirmish occurred near Charleston, on the 28th of May. It remained in the valley until the organization of Pope's army, which it joined towards the close of June. It suffered severely at Cedar Mountain, and for eight hours fought gallantry at Antietam, losing heavily in that engagement. The regiment was next engaged at Chancellorsville, and again at Gettysburg the One Hundred and Eleventh displayed heroic valor. It was soon after transferred to Gen. Rosecrans' army in Tennessee, and participated in the Murfreesboro campaign, taking part in the movements which swept Bragg from his strongholds environing the Union army. Early in May, 1864, Sherman's campaign on Atlanta opened, and this gallant regiment was fighting almost constantly until the fall of Atlanta, its colors being among the first displayed inside the captured city. From Atlanta to the sea was another glorious campaign in which the regiment took part. The Carolina campaign came next, soon followed by the surrender of the Rebel armies of Lee and Johnston, and the close of the war. The One Hundred and Eleventh returned to Washington, was present in the grand review, served as guard at the old Capitol, Carroll and other prisons, and was mustered out of service July 19, 1865, at Washington, whence the men returned to their homes.

One Hundred and Thirteenth Regiment (Twelfth Cavalry).—Some of the men composing this regiment, when it first took the field, were recruited in Crawford County. It was organized at Camp McReynolds, near Philadelphia, in November, 1861, and proceeded to Washington, where it was armed, and remained in camp near that city until June 20, 1862, when it was sent to

Manassas Junction, and employed in guard duty. It was past the middle of July ere the command was mounted, and on the 26th of August it started on a reconnoissance, struck the Rebel columns near Bristol, and in the brief engagement which followed, lost 260 in killed, wounded and prisoners. The regiment served on picket duty until the battle of South Mountain, in which it formed a part of the reserve corps. It did good service at Antietam in bringing up stragglers and checking disorder. The regiment was engaged on picket duty and scouting expeditions constantly, and in gathering important information about the movements of the enemy, rendered invaluable services. In this hazardous work it had many severe skirmishes with the Rebels. Gettysburg was fought and won, and during Lee's retreat, on the 5th of July, the Twelfth assisted in capturing, at Cunningham Cross Roads, 640 prisoners, 550 horses and mules, 125 wagons and three brass twelve-pounders; while near Mercersburg, sixty prisoners and twenty-four wagons were taken. Soon after the Gettysburg campaign the command crossed the Potomac, and was engaged in picket and guard duty near Martinsburg. At the expiration of its term of service the full regiment veteranized, and went home on furlough. The opening of the spring campaign of 1864, found the Twelfth at its post. It took part in the several engagements with the Rebel Gen. Early, in July of that year, losing many of its brave boys. It served under Sheridan throughout the Shenandoah campaign, though not always in the heat of battle, and upon the close of the war was engaged on duty near Mount Jackson, paroling any of Lee's soldiers returning through that part of the country. It then went into camp near Winchester, and on the 20th of July, 1865, was mustered out of service.

One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Regiment.—This regiment was organized at Camp Curtin, August 20, 1862, and was enlisted for the nine months' service. A portion of Company I was raised in Crawford County. On the 29th of August the regiment was ordered to Washington where it arrived during the progress of the battle of Bull Run, and was sent to Fort Lincoln, a part of the chain of defenses around the Capital. After that disastrous battle, the regiment was engaged on guard duty, and in strengthening the fortifications. In the latter part of September it moved to Frederick, Md., and shortly afterward to Sharpsburg, Va., crossing on its route the battlefield of Antietam. It was assigned to the Second Brigade, Second Division of the First Corps. Its first battle was Fredericksburg, where it formed a part of the division which bore the brunt of the fighting on the left of the line. The regiment lost in this gallant but unsuccessful attack, one hundred and forty in killed, wounded and missing. Upon the close of the battle the command returned to the north bank of the Rappahannock, where it remained until the opening of the spring campaign. The bloody battle of Chancellorsville was its next experience in the art of war. Here the regiment fought gallantly, which helped to enhance its reputation for courage and determined bravery. This was the last battle participated in by the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth, and on the 29th of May, 1863, it was mustered out at Harrisburg.

One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Regiment.—This was another of the nine months' regiments, and was organized at Camp Curtin, August 25, 1862. Company B, Capt. DeLos Walker, was raised in Crawford County. On arriving at Washington the regiment went into camp, and on the 31st of August was assigned to Hancock's Brigade, Smith's Division, Sixth Corps, then about to proceed to Maryland. At Crampton's Gap, in the South Mountain, it was for the first time under fire. At Antietam the main body of the regiment was held in reserve. The brigade, under Gen. Pratt, was sent in pursuit of Stuart, on his Pennsylvania raid, but the trip proved fruitless, and

the command went into camp near Hagerstown, not far from the State line. In October the regiment was ordered to Washington, and encamped to the south of the East Branch of the Potomac. The command was subsequently ordered to Fredericksburg, and though participating in the plan of battle, was not under fire at any time. In the Chancellorsville campaign it was also present, and was exposed to an artillery fire during and after throwing up temporary earthworks on the south bank of the Rappahannock, yet saw no serious fighting. The regiment was ordered to Harrisburg about the middle of May, and on the 1st of June, 1863, was mustered out of service in that city.

One Hundred and Forty-fifth Regiment.—This regiment was principally recruited in Erie County. Capt. Andrew J. Mason's command, Company H, was raised in Crawford. On the 5th of September, 1861, the regiment was organized at Erie, with John W. Patton, of Crawford County, as Major, and left for the front on the 11th. It was supplied with arms at Camp McClure, and moved in the direction of Hagerstown. At daylight on the 17th the regiment under arms could distinctly hear the booming of cannon on the field of Antietam, some ten miles distant. A wish to march was gratified, and by noon the regiment reached the extreme right of the Union line, and was placed in position. They were not assailed, and to them fell the task of caring for the wounded and burial of the dead after the battle. Soon after this engagement a wide-spread sickness prevailed among the men of this command, which within a month rendered between 200 and 300 unfit for duty, while many died or were discharged. The regiment went into camp above Harper's Ferry, where it was temporarily attached to the Irish Brigade, but was finally assigned to the First Brigade, First Division of the Second Corps, and was soon made proficient by severe drill and rigid discipline. At Fredericksburg this new regiment moved with the firm tread of veterans, over the ditch and plain, on up toward the stone wall at the foot of Marye's Heights. With ranks torn and rent by a murderous fire, it breasted shot and shell in the front rank of Hancock's gallant division, which reached and held the foremost line formed by the Union forces. At night-fall the regiment was relieved and returned to town, leaving on that bloody field 226 killed and wounded, or nearly one-half of those who crossed the Rappahannock. The regiment passed the winter in camp near Fredericksburg, and in the spring of 1863 moved on the Chancellorsville campaign. In the battle which followed, the regiment had 150 of its men captured on the skirmish line, while the balance of the command in supporting the batteries massed around the Chancellor House, was exposed to a severe fire of musketry and artillery. Here Maj. Patton, of Crawford County, was struck by a fragment of a shell, and fell mortally wounded.

From the line of the Rappahannock the army moved toward Gettysburg, the Second Corps reaching that point on the morning of July 2, 1863. In that terrible battle the One Hundred and Forty-fifth fought like heroes, the gallant brigade driving the enemy in confusion and silencing a Rebel battery, but the advantage so bravely won could not be held, and the exhausted troops were forced to retire before superior numbers. The regiment lost in this fierce encounter eighty killed and wounded of the 200 which it took into battle, but it gloriously assisted in driving the Rebel General from the soil of Pennsylvania back to his southern lair. It also took active part in the pursuit of Lee, participating in the engagements at Auburn Hill and Bristol Station, losing a number in killed and wounded. Upon the close of the campaign the regiment went into winter quarters near Germania Ford. Early in 1864 the army was again in motion, and the regiment took part in the engagements upon the

Brock Road, May 5 and 6. On the Po River the One Hundred and Forty-fifth lead the charge on the rebel works, losing heavily in the assault. It again met the enemy at North Anna, and participated in the gallant charge of the Second Corps at Cold Harbor, the loss being very heavy. Crossing the James River, the regiment reached Petersburg after a long and fatiguing march. In a desperate charge upon the Rebel works June 16, 1864, the regiment was almost annihilated by the capture of its Lieutenant-Colonel, four Captains, four Lieutenants and about eighty of the rank and file, who were held as prisoners until March, 1865. Only about 200 were present for duty when the charge was made, and of this number about fifty were killed or wounded. During the remainder of the summer the handful of men left in the command was almost constantly under fire. It was engaged in the battles of Ream's Station and Deep Bottom, spent the fall and winter on fatigue and picket duty, and sustained some losses during that period. It participated in the battle of Five Forks, and after the surrender of Lee's army returned through Richmond to Alexandria. The regiment was present at the grand review May 23 and 24, 1865, and was mustered out of service on the 31st, and early in June was disbanded at Erie, where it was received with demonstrations of honor and satisfaction.

One Hundred and Fiftieth Regiment.—Few regiments that served in the late war are more widely known than those which bore the title of "Bucktails," a name made celebrated by the heroic valor displayed by these commands on many a hard-fought field. The One Hundred and Fiftieth was organized at Camp Curtin on the 4th of September, 1862, its Lieutenant-Colonel being Henry S. Huidekoper, of Meadville, who had studied military tactics at Harvard University. Four companies of this regiment were recruited in Crawford County, viz.: Companies C, H, I and K, the respective Captains being John B. Fay, J. W. H. Reisinger, John W. Sigler and David V. Derickson. On reaching Washington it was assigned to guard duty in and around the city. Companies C and H were assigned to duty at the Soldiers' Home, President Lincoln's summer residence, but by mistake proceeded to the Soldiers' Rest, whence they returned to their regiment. In the meantime the regulars guarding the Home having received marching orders, had departed, leaving it unguarded. The authorities, becoming alarmed at the non-appearance of the companies which had been sent, ordered a new detail, and Companies D and K were assigned and duly installed as guard to the President. Company D was soon afterward sent to the Soldiers' Rest, leaving Capt. Derickson's command as sole guard at the Home. Considerable effort having been made to have this company join the regiment in the field and replace it at the Home by other troops, the President gave Capt. Derickson the following letter:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, November 1, 1862.

Whom it May Concern:

Capt. Derickson, with his company, has been, for some time keeping guard at my residence, now at the Soldiers' Retreat. He and his company are very agreeable to me; and while it is deemed proper for any guard to remain, none would be more satisfactory to me than Capt. D. and his company. A. LINCOLN.

On the 1st of May, 1863, Capt. Derickson resigned to accept the position of Provost Marshal of the district wherein Crawford County was located; and under Capt. Thomas Getchell the company continued to act as President Lincoln's guard until his assassination, April 14, 1865, and was mustered out the following June.

Near the middle of February, 1863, the regiment moved to Belle Plain, and

was assigned to the Second Brigade, Third Division of the First Corps. Its pioneer service in the field was on the Chancellorsville campaign, in which battle it took position on the extreme right of the line, but was not actively engaged.

About the middle of June the "Bucktails" marched on the Pennsylvania campaign, which closed with the bloody battle of Gettysburg. Here the regiment really fought its first battle, winning a reputation for valor that will be imperishable. It was in the thickest of the fight around the village of Gettysburg, and though the Rebel onslaughts were repulsed again and again with terrible loss, the indomitable One Hundred and Fiftieth also suffered severely. Its colors were captured by the enemy, and recaptured in a gallant charge upon the Rebel line. Almost surrounded by the enemy the brigade continued to hold its position, but finally retired, stubbornly contesting every foot of the ground with an overpowering foe, and repelling a desperate charge upon one of the batteries which it supported. The retreat, however, was delayed so long that the Rebels had closed in about them, and many of these brave boys were captured in the streets of Gettysburg, the tattered flag of the "Bucktails" again falling into the hands of the enemy, where it remained until the capture of Jefferson Davis, with whose effects it was found. On the 25th of October, 1869, this flag was transmitted by the Secretary of War to the Adjutant-General of Pennsylvania, and may now be seen at Harrisburg with the other battle-stained ensigns of the State. The regiment went into Gettysburg with seventeen officers and about 400 men. Of these, 43 were killed, 138 wounded and 79 taken prisoners. Lieut.-Col. Huidekoper, of Meadville, lost an arm in this battle, while Capt. Sigler and Lieut. Rose, of Company I, and Lieut. Perkins, of Company C, all of Crawford County, were among the wounded. After the battle the regiment participated in the pursuit of Lee's forces, but no general engagement followed.

During the fall the One Hundred and Fiftieth, which was reduced to less than 200 men, received considerable accessions from the recruiting stations. It went into camp near Paoli Mills, but subsequently established its winter quarters at the town of Culpepper. In February, 1864, Lieut-Col. Huidekoper was promoted to the head of the regiment, succeeding Col. Wister (resigned), but being disabled by the loss of his arm, and the wound still open, Col. Huidekoper was obliged to leave the service soon after his promotion. Early in May, 1864, the spring campaign opened, and in the battles of the Wilderness the regiment bore a conspicuous part. On the 5th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th of May the brigade was almost constantly under fire, making no less than five gallant charges upon the Rebel works. At Spottsylvania Court House we again find the regiment fighting bravely. At North Anna River on the 23d of May, the firm front and dauntless courage displayed by the "Bucktail" Brigade, stayed the Rebel onslaught, and the ground was held and fortified. On the 30th at Tolopotomy Creek, and two days afterward at Bethesda Church, the regiment was hotly engaged, losing heavily in both battles. By the middle of June the army had crossed the James, and arrived in front of Petersburg. On the 17th of June the fighting commenced, and on the following day the "Bucktails" took part in the desperate but unsuccessful assault upon the Rebel fortifications. Its next active operations occurred in the advance upon the Weldon Railroad, where the brigade almost annihilated a Rebel column which attempted to flank the division, several stands of colors and 500 prisoners falling into the hands of the "Bucktails." It again met the enemy at Hatchers' Run, and in December participated in the grand raid upon the Weldon Railroad, which was completely destroyed for a distance of nearly

twenty miles. The regiment now went into winter quarters and the quiet of the camp was undisturbed until the following February, when for nearly a week fighting continued on Hatcher's Run with varying success. At the end of this time the "Bucktails" were relieved and sent to Elmira, N. Y., to guard Rebel prisoners collected at that point, and there remained until mustered out of service in June, 1865.

One Hundred and Sixty-third Regiment (Eighteenth Cavalry).—This regiment was recruited from some sixteen counties in the fall and winter of 1862, and partially organized and mounted at Camp Curtin. It contained a few recruits from Crawford County, but not more than some other regiments not accredited thereto, and its record cannot therefore be properly regarded as a part of the county's military history. To those who desire to know its history we will say, you can find it fully written up in the "Pennsylvania Volunteers," whose author, Prof. Samuel P. Bates, is a well-known citizen of Meadville.

One Hundred and Ninetieth and Ninety-first Regiments.—When the regiments composing the Reserve Corps was mustered out, a large number of veterans and recruits remained whose terms of service had not expired, and these were organized into two regiments, known as the One Hundred and Ninetieth, and One Hundred and Ninety-first. Some of these men belonged to the Ninth and Tenth Reserves, each of which had a company from Meadville. These regiments were organized immediately after the battle of Bethesda Church, May 30, 1864, and their first battle was at Cold Harbor, after which they constituted the Third Brigade, Third Division, of the Fifth Corps. Near Charles City Cross Roads they were fiercely attacked on the 13th of June, and during the entire day held at bay a superior force of the enemy. Upon crossing the James, the command moved rapidly toward Petersburg, arriving in front of the enemy on the evening of the 17th. The brigade was ordered to drive the Rebels from a certain position in its front, and in the battles which followed, it captured an entire Rebel regiment, the Thirty-ninth North Carolina. Though vigorously assailed by infantry and artillery, the ground was held, until regularly relieved, though losing many in killed and wounded. For the succeeding eight days the brigade was almost constantly on active duty, and lost a considerable number of its command. During the two first weeks of July it was engaged constructing Fort Warren, and afterward took position where Fort Crawford was subsequently located. On the 18th of August it moved on the Weldon Railroad, capturing and destroying a portion near the Yellow House. When the brigade came in front of the rebel breastworks, a line was established and fortified. Here, on the afternoon of the 19th, the brigade was completely surrounded and forced to surrender. The captives were hurried away to rebel prisons, and suffered all the horrors of a cruel confinement until near the close of the war. A small detachment that had been sent to the rear for provisions and ammunition, escaped capture, and was the nucleus for re-organization. At Gravelly Run the re-organized command did good execution; and at Five Forks, April 1, 1865, led the advance, which resulted in a glorious victory. From the 2d until the 9th of April, the command, as skirmishers, hung upon the rear of the fleeing rebels, and was just about to charge a battery, when a horseman bearing a flag of truce rode along the lines with the glad news of Lee's surrender. Returning to Washington, after the surrender, the two regiments went into camp, and on the 28th of June were mustered out of service.

Two Hundred and Eleventh Regiment.—On the 16th of September, 1864, this regiment effected an organization at Camp Reynolds, near Pittsburgh. Company A, Capt. Elias B. Lee, was raised in Crawford County. Soon after

the regiment was organized it was ordered to the front, and placed in the intrenchments at Bermuda Hundred. It was incorporated with a provisional brigade of the Army of the James, and was here for the first time under fire. Late in November the command was transferred to the Army of the Potomac, where it was assigned to the Second Brigade, Third Division, of the Ninth Corps. Nothing of importance occurred during the winter, but on the 25th of March, 1865, it participated in the re-capture of Fort Steadman, losing one killed and ten wounded. In the attack on the rebel works, April 2d, which were gallantly carried, the regiment lost four officers and seventeen men killed, four officers and eighty-nine men wounded, and twenty-one missing, an aggregate of 135 who went down in that desperate assault. This was the last battle the regiment took part in, for the war was now drawing to a close, and Lee's surrender, on the 9th, put an end to hostile operations. After the battle of the 2d, the command was engaged on picket and guard duty until April 20, and then left Nottoway Court House for Alexandria, where it was mustered out of service on the 2d of June.

The foregoing sketches will serve to illustrate the glorious and distinguished part taken by the soldiers of Crawford County in the great battles of the Rebellion. When the tocsin of war sounded, they went forth in all their vigorous manhood to battle for National life, and on many a bloody field carried the dear old flag to victory. Many went down in the crash of battle; hundreds sickened and died from exposure and hardships on the tented field, or starvation in rebel prisons; others returned scarred and maimed for life, while many came out unscathed, to again resume their places in civil affairs. The events of this war have passed into history. The youthful student is bewildered with the recital of its gigantic proportions, and the son listens with wonder to the tale of bloody strife as it falls from the lips of the surviving father who served in the struggle. The mother relates the anguish and long years of anxiety and suffering in those dark days. All are familiar, through written records, with the causes which produced the great Rebellion, its fierce continuance, its glorious termination, and the fruits left for the enjoyment of coming generations.

E. Chamberlain

PART III.

MEADVILLE AND TITUSVILLE.

MEADVILLE AND TITUSVILLE.

CHAPTER I.

MEADVILLE.

APPEARANCE AND TOPOGRAPHY OF THE CITY—THE TOWN LAID OUT BY DAVID MEAD—FIRST SALES OF LOTS AND THE PURCHASERS—ANECDOTE OF THE FIRST SURVEY—PIONEERS—RE-SURVEY AND ENLARGEMENT OF THE TOWN PLAT—BRIEF SKETCHES OF THOSE WHO LOCATED PERMANENTLY IN MEADVILLE PRIOR TO 1805—EARLY PHYSICIANS—NATURAL PHENOMENA OF PIONEER DAYS—STRANGE PSYCHOLOGICAL PHENOMENON—VISIT OF LA FAYETTE—MEADVILLE IN 1830—BUSINESS MEN THEN RESIDING HERE—OLD HOUSES YET REMAINING—THE CHANGES WHICH FIFTY-FOUR YEARS HAVE WROUGHT IN THE TOWN.

NESTLING in the valley of French Creek, and surrounded by towering hills on every side, the city of Meadville presents a landscape of beauty rarely excelled. In every direction beautiful forest-covered slopes overlook the city, and winding down the valley the waters of French Creek may be traced until they are lost amid the green foliage bordering the banks of the stream. The topography of Meadville is of a character to furnish unusual facilities for an ample supply of water and good sewerage, the abundance and elevation of springs, and the high locality of the reservoir within the corporate limits, creates a pressure which carries a pure stream to the topmost story of the highest buildings. Lying on an incline which rises from French Creek eastward, and crossed by Mill Run in a southwest direction, she has the advantage of a thorough natural drainage, while a good sewerage system is one of the boasts of Meadville. With these accessories and an unusual freedom from that poisonous malaria which affects so many districts, the city is entitled to a high reputation for general healthfulness.

The first settlement in northwestern Pennsylvania was made on the site of Meadville and its immediate vicinity, and from this point, long known as "Mead's Settlement," the pioneers scattered in every direction over the fertile soil lying west of the Allegheny River. As the story of these events has already been told in the general history of the county, we will not again take up the subject, but pass on to the laying out of the town. The original plan of Meadville was conceived in 1793 by David Mead, though the town was not named until after the first sale of lots, for we find in an old account book now in possession of William Gill, Esq., of Meadville, the following record in Gen. Mead's own handwriting:

> Journal of the Town of ——, laid out by David Mead, at Cussewago, and commenced the sale of lots on the 20th day of February, 1793.

The purchasers of lots in 1793 were Lewis Bond, William Gill, Thomas Ray, John Ray, Robert Finney, Samuel Lord, Hugh Dupray, Ebenezer McGuffin, James Campbell, John Beals, Frederick Haymaker, William Jones, John Wentworth, William Black, Thomas Black, Andrew Robinson and Luke Hill. In 1794 the following persons bought lots in the newly laid out town:

William Dick, John Wilkins, Jr., Jesse Barker, John Polhamus, John Smith, John Brooks, James Dickson, John Clows, Cornelius Van Horne, John Mead, Abner Evans, Barnabas McCormick, James Findlay, Joseph Griffin, Robert Wilson, Ebenezer McGuffin, Jennet Finney, Edward Cannon, William Clemens, Samuel Lord, Nicholas Lord, John Hawk, George Roberts, Joseph Armstrong, John Barclay, Henry Richard and Frederick Baum. In 1795 lots were purchased by William Gill, Jacob Raysor, John Wolfort, John Davis, John Stewart, Solomon Jennings, Robert Finney, Jennet Finney, Alexander Power, Frederick Baum, Robert Johnson, John Johnson, John Morris, Henry Marly, Robert Wilson, John Wilson, Charles Sweeny, John McAddon, Archibald Bruce, John Brooks, William Johnson, Robert Burris, James Heatly, Alexander Linn, Roger Alden and Joseph Osborn.

When Gen. Mead laid out Meadville he did not then contemplate a city such as it has since become. The enlarged plans and the location of a seat of justice at this point were after considerations, and the block of lots on Walnut Street, between Market and Park Avenue, now occupied by the residence and grounds of D. G. Shryock, Esq., was in the original plan of Gen. Mead, intended for a public square.

Henry Marly, one of the pioneers of Crawford County, acted as chain bearer for Gen. Mead in the survey of the town. He used to relate that they commenced at Mead's Mill, a log building then standing near the site of the "Red Mill," at the head of Water Street, and ran south, cutting out the hazel brush in their progress. It was late in the afternoon before they reached the point where Mill Run crosses Water Street, when Mead, looking at his watch, exclaimed, "Well, Henry, we'll stop here. I guess the town will never go farther south than this creek." He however lived to see the village pass the boundary he had established. But what would be the old General's surprise if he were to return and view the city he founded more than ninety-one years ago? Many of those who purchased lots of Gen. Mead in 1793–94 and 1795 were non-residents, while others are well remembered pioneers of different sections of the county. The following purchasers, however, located permanently in Meadville, and the majority of them lived and died here: Samuel Lord, Frederick Haymaker, William Dick, John Brooks, Henry Reichard, Jacob Raysor, John Davis and Roger Alden. Between 1794 and 1800 several other pioneers settled in the village, among whom were Dr. Thomas R. Kennedy, James Herriott, Samuel Torbett, Capt. Richard Patch, James Gibson, Col. Joseph Hackney, John Carver, William McArthur, David Compton, Patrick Davis, Lawrence Clancy and Alexander Buchanan.

In 1795 the town plat was re-surveyed, remodeled and enlarged by Gen. Mead, Dr. Thomas R. Kennedy and Maj. Roger Alden, who at that time were the three leading citizens of the village. The town was divided into seventy-five squares, by streets, alleys and lanes; and one square, known as the Diamond, was laid off for public buildings in the form of a parallelogram, measuring 300 feet east and west by 600 north and south. By the close of the eighteenth century, scattering cabins dotted the site of Meadville from French Creek to the Diamond, and the little hamlet began to exhibit signs of a healthy growth. The erection of Crawford County in 1800, and location of the seat of justice at Meadville, gave it an impetus that for some years made it the leading town in Northwestern Pennsylvania.

Most of the land on which the city is built was in 1805 either covered with a heavy growth of forest trees, or but recently cleared. A handbill was issued that year, signed by the real estate owners of the village, setting forth the advantages of Meadville, and holding out inducements to actual settlers.

The lots were offered at $6 each, and were chiefly located on those portions of Water, Chestnut, Centre, Walnut and Dock Streets, now most densely populated, or occupied by business houses. The principal residents of Meadville at that time were as follows:

Gen. David Mead, Associate Judge of Crawford County in 1800, and from 1803 to 1816, and Major-General of the Sixteenth Division Pennsylvania Militia resided at the north end of Water Street, in the house now occupied by Dr. Edward Ellis. He built here in 1797, carried on a mill and a store for many years, and died in 1816, having been a resident of the valley since 1788, and founder of the city which now bears his name. (See biography in Chapter IV, General History.)

Dr. Thomas R. Kennedy came to Meadville in 1795, and resided here until his death in 1813. He was the pioneer physician west of the Allegheny River, and the first Prothonotary of Crawford County, holding that position from 1800 to 1809. His residence was on the northwest corner of Water and Centre Streets, where the frame cottage of John A. Sergeant now stands. (See biography in Chapter XIII, General History.)

Maj. Roger Alden came to Meadville in the fall of 1795, and bought a lot of Gen. Mead. He had served throughout the Revolutionary war, and to use his own language, "was in the first platoon that fired a shot at Lexington, and among the last in the action at Yorktown." Maj. Alden was the first agent of the Holland Land Company, which position he held until the close of 1804, and resided where D. G. Shryock's residence stands on Walnut Street. He assisted largely in the settlement and improvement of Crawford County by erecting mills and opening roads, and in many other ways contributing to its prosperity. In 1804 he fought a duel with Alexander W. Foster. The meeting took place on the bank of French Creek below Meadville, and at the first fire Maj. Alden fell, shot through the thigh. Dr. Kennedy, of Meadville, and Dr. Wallace, of Erie, were the surgeons in charge, and the event caused much excitement in the village. Maj. Alden represented the county in the Legislature from 1809 to 1811, was County Treasurer from 1816 to 1819, and Register and Recorder from 1821 to February, 1825. His name may be found in connection with every leading local event of his time. After the war of 1812–15 he became financially embarrassed, and lost all his property. February, 1825, he was appointed Quartermaster at West Point, and removed from Meadville the same year, dying at the former place between eighty and ninety years of age.

Col. Joseph Hackney served through the several campaigns against the Ohio Indians, from 1785 to 1791, and settled at Meadville in 1794. His store was in the small frame building still standing north of McFarland's bottling works, on Water Street, which he erected in 1797. He resided on Walnut Street, on the lot now occupied by B. F. Porter's residence, was a County Commissioner from 1800 to 1802, and from 1811 to 1814. In 1817 he removed to Warren, Penn., and upon the organization of that county he was appointed Associate Judge.

Samuel Lord purchased a lot of Gen. Mead, February 20, 1793, and was, therefore, one of the very first settlers of the town. Though residing in 1805 near where Hon. William Reynolds' house now stands, which was then outside the village limits, he was closely identified with the interests of the town. He built the house northwest corner of Water and Centre Streets, which was occupied by Dr. Kennedy in 1805, and had a store connected therewith in a small one-story, log building. Indian trade was then very lucrative, and Mr. Lord understanding their language, had a large share of their patronage. A

squaw was killed by a drunken Indian at the door of this store, being the only murder ever committed in Meadville. Mr. Lord was an old Revolutionary soldier, and though a plain, uncultured man, had a good mind and held in his day several important offices, among which were County Commissioner from 1815 to 1818, and from 1830 to 1833. He was an ardent Federalist and possessed considerable influence and popularity in his party up to the time of his death.

Frederick Haymaker came to the village in 1793, and in 1805 lived on Water Street, immediately south of Mrs. John McFarland's residence. He was the first postmaster of the town, and also a pioneer Justice of the Peace.

William Dick, with his family settled here in the fall of 1794, purchasing a lot that year from Gen. Mead. He first occupied a log-cabin, inside the stockade around Mead's Block-house, James Dickson living in another of the same sort, but in the spring of 1795, Mr. Dick removed to a double log-house, which then stood on the side of the Central Hotel. He was a carpenter, and built many of the first frame houses in the village, among which was one for Gen. Mead, in 1797, at the head of Water Street, now the residence of Dr. Ellis. In 1798, he erected the two-story frame, yet standing on the northeast corner of Water Street and Cherry Alley, where he was residing in 1805. All the first courts of the county were held in the second story of this building, which is one of the oldest structures in the city. Mr. Dick spent the balance of his days in Meadville, and his descendents are among its leading business men.

John Brooks was also a purchaser of 1794, though he did not settle permanently in the town until 1804, when he opened a small wagon-shop on Walnut Street. He was a Justice of the Peace and one of the largest real estate owners of the village; served as County Treasurer from 1811 to 1813, and as Associate Judge from 1817 to 1830. He lived on the south side of Walnut Street between the Diamond and Liberty Street, and subsequently at the northeast corner of the Diamond, whence he removed to a farm in Mead Township, and there died.

Henry Reichard came from Germany as a soldier in the Hessian Army during the Revolution, was taken prisoner and upon the close of the war remained in America. He came to Meadville in the fall of 1794, and bought a lot of Gen. Mead. He built a log-house on Water Street, on the lot just north of the Citizens Hotel, and was living there in 1805, and died many years later.

Jacob Raysor was also a German, and kept a gun-shop. He came early in 1795, and purchased a lot the same spring. He was a little old man, known by all the early residents as "Daddy" Raysor, and lived on Walnut Street until his death.

John, Patrick and George Davis settled in Meadville in the summer of 1795. The first mentioned in 1805, lived on the site now covered by the Boileau and Gill Block on Water Street. Patrick opened a tanyard in 1796 on Dock Street, which he operated for quite a number of years. He lived where the late James Porter's residence stands, the tannery being behind his house. George Davis' house stood on Chestnut Street, on the east side of S. N. Pettis' grounds.

Maj. James Herriott located in the village about 1797, and in 1805 his store and residence were in the frame building on the northeast corner of Water and Walnut Streets. Maj. Herriott served a short period in the war of 1812, was County Commissioner from 1813 to 1816, and until misfortune overtook him, he was one of the most prominent business men of this portion of the

State. He married the only child of Lawrence Clancy and, after amassing quite a fortune, reverses came on, and he died in the western part of the county a poor man.

Samuel Torbett was a nail maker, who came to Meadville and opened a shop on Centre Street about 1796–97. He followed that business for some years, residing, in 1805, on the site of the late Kennedy Davis' House; but finally engaged in tavern keeping, which he followed until his death. Torbett's tavern stood on the southwest corner of Water and Chestnut Streets. Mr. Torbett was Sheriff of the county from 1815 to 1818.

Capt. Richard Patch was of English parentage and was born on the Atlantic during the passage to America in 1775. He removed to Pittsburgh in boyhood, there married, and in 1795 came to Meadville, settling here permanently in 1797. He was a boat-captain, and soon after coming built a log-cabin on the southwest corner of Chestnut and Market Streets, subsequently erecting the two-story stone building yet standing there, where he kept tavern a few years, dying in 1846.

James Gibson came to Meadville in the last decade of the eighteenth century, and subsequently began keeping a tavern on Water Street, on the site of Ohlman's clothing store in the Delamater Block. He was Postmaster of Meadville from 1807 to 1812. His tavern was a noted stopping place throughout the earlier years of the county's history, and his name is familiar to many of the present residents of the city.

John Carver another settler of the last century kept the "Bear Tavern," on the site of the Corinthian Block, on Water Street, in 1805. It was a long log-house erected by him for a tavern in 1796–97. In June of the latter year the building was blown down by a violent storm, and the late John Dick, then a small boy, was caught in the wreck and badly injured. The tavern was at once rebuilt, and stood for many years afterward.

David Compton, grandfather of Col. John B. Compton, the present (1884) District Attorney, was a native of New Jersey, located in Meadville in 1797, and from 1804 to 1811 kept the Washington House, now the Citizens' Hotel, which stands on the west side of Water Street, above Walnut. He subsequently settled on a farm across French Creek, but in 1812, his house was burned down, and two of his children lost their lives in the fire. He then removed to a farm south of Meadville, where he resided until his death at the advanced age of ninety years.

William McArthur came to Meadville prior to 1800, and in 1805 was residing in a large log-house, which he had previously erected on the northwest corner of Walnut and North Main Streets. The county offices were located in this building for many years. Mr. McArthur was the first Treasurer of Crawford County, served as County Surveyor from 1800 to 1806, was Prothonotary and Clerk from 1809 to 1821, and Register and Recorder from 1812 to 1820. In 1801 he was elected to represent the district in the State Senate, and served until 1809. He died in September, 1822.

Lawrence Clancy was an Irish Catholic, who settled in Meadville in 1799, and resided here until his death. He was a blacksmith, and had a shop on the site of the Protestant Episcopal Church for many years, while his log-house was across the street where the family of the late E. A. Reynolds resides. His daughter married Maj. James Herriott, and died in Meadville.

Alexander Buchanan built a log tavern on Water Street, about 1798–99, and occupied it for four or five years. He was elected to the Legislature in 1801, when the district included the whole of Northwestern Pennsylvania.

The foregoing list of pioneers embraces about all who settled in Mead-

ville before 1800; but early in the present century quite a number located who deserve brief mention in this chapter.

William Clark lived immediately south of the village, but within the circle of its society. He was one of the leading Democrats of the county, held many offices, among which were those of County Commissioner from 1800 to 1804, and Associate Judge from 1803 to 1818. He was also Brigade Inspector of Militia, and was prominently identified with the public affairs of the town and county until his return to his early home on the Susquehanna near Harrisburg.

Henry Hurst came to the town about 1800, and erected a tavern on the southeast corner of Water and Centre Streets, which is yet standing, where he hung out the sign of the cross-keys. He was elected County Commissioner in 1802 and served three years. He was Sheriff from 1806 to 1809, and filled the same office from 1812 to 1815. He was Postmaster of Meadville from 1812 to 1814, and State Senator of the district from 1816 to 1821. During the war of 1812 he was appointed a Brigadier-General of the Sixteenth Division Pennsylvania Militia, and was one of the leading Democrats in this section of the State until his death.

Thomas Atkinson located in Meadville in the fall of 1804, and January 2, 1805, issued the first number of the Crawford *Weekly Messenger*, the pioneer newspaper of western Pennsylvania. His office was in a log building on the site of the Central Hotel barn, whence he removed to the east side of the Diamond. Mr. Atkinson published the *Messenger* until March, 1833, when he retired from the business. In 1810 he was elected County Commissioner and served until 1813. Was Treasurer of the County from 1820 to 1822, and served in the Legislature in 1826–27 and 1835–36. He was a very useful citizen during his residence in Meadville. His death occurred in 1837.

H. J. Huidekoper, a native of Holland, born April 3, 1776, came to Meadville in November, 1804, and in January, 1805, entered upon his duties as agent of the Holland Land Company. His first office and residence was on the south side of Walnut Street, between Water and Market, but he subsequently laid out grounds and erected a two-story frame cottage on South Water Street, where now stands the residence of his son, Rev. Fredric Huidekoper. He was one of the most prominent, enterprising and useful men that Meadville has ever possessed, and the monuments of his generosity remain to praise his memory. For nearly half a century he labored to build up the city and county of his adoption, and when he died, May 22, 1854, his name had become a household word and his memory a blessing throughout the length and breadth of Crawford County.

Rev. Joseph Stockton was the first resident minister of Meadville, which he first visited in 1799, and located here as the pastor of the Presbyterian Church in the fall of 1800. He lived on Liberty Street, in the building since remodeled as a residence, now occupied by Clinton Cullum, Esq. Mr. Stockton was the first Principal of the Meadville Academy, opened in 1805, and besides attending to his duties as pastor, taught in that institution until his removal from town in 1810.

William Moore lived, in 1805, on Walnut Street, and was Clerk of the courts from 1800 to 1809, and Register and Recorder from 1800 to 1805.

John Patterson, the County Treasurer from 1802 to 1808, resided on Walnut, between Water Street and French Creek.

Bartholomew White kept the Federal tavern on the southwest corner of Water and Centre Streets, in 1805. He enlisted in the war of 1812, and was killed at Fort Erie. This old building stood until the spring of 1880, when it was removed.

G. W. Centsthall

Samuel B. Magaw operated a store in 1805, just north of where the Corinthian Block stands, and was one of the leading citizens of the village. He was the first President of the Northwestern Bank of Pennsylvania, organized in November, 1814. He died in March, 1816.

Other pioneers living in Meadville in 1805 were as follows: Andrew Work, merchant, who resided on the lot now occupied by the house of Mrs. John McFarland, on Water Street; Eliphalet Betts, tailor, resided in a house built by him in 1804, and still standing on the west side of Water Street, between Chestnut and Centre, where the late Hiram Betts died; Nicholas Conrad had a bakery on the southeast corner of Chestnut and Water Streets, the site recently occupied by the opera house, and whereon the handsome block was erected in the summer and fall of 1884; Alexander W. Foster, attorney, lived on Dock Street, where the residence of J. C. Dickson stands; John W. Hunter, attorney, resided on the site of Mrs. William Hurst's house, corner of Market and North Streets; James Quigley, Sheriff, from 1803 to 1806, and County Commissioner from 1806 to 1809, lived on the site of the Crawford Hotel, at the southeast corner of the Diamond; Andrew Graff's residence was on the northeast corner of Park Avenue and Chestnut Street; Hugh Allen, Deputy Sheriff, kept a tavern where now stands the residence of Rev. T. L. Flood, northwest corner of Centre Street and the Diamond; William Shannon, saddler, and William Burnside, blacksmith, had shops on Centre Street; William McFadden, teamster, lived on Centre Street, the site of Jesse Rupp's residence; Daniel Holten's residence was on Walnut Street. He, too, followed the business of teamster. Martha Fisher, a widow, lived on the site of the public library building; the residence of James Douglas, a pioneer school teacher, is not remembered by any of the pioneers. The single men who boarded at the various taverns were: Hon. Jesse Moore, President Judge of the district; Patrick Farrelly and Ralph Marlin, attorneys (see biographies Chapter XIII, general history); Jabez Colt, land agent; Samuel Withrow, hatter; Sampson and Joshua Hamilton, cabinet-makers; George McGunnegle, tailor; Edward Work, attorney and Postmaster; John Reynolds, residing with Dr. Kennedy, and Peter Huidekoper, Clerk in the office of the Holland Land Company.

Early Physicians.—Dr. Thomas R. Kennedy located in Meadville in 1795 and for twelve years was the only physician in the town. In 1807 Dr. Daniel Bemus, opened an office here, and upon the death of Dr. Kennedy in March, 1813, succeeded to the practice established by that gentleman. Dr. Bemus spent the rest of his life in Meadville and vicinity, practicing until 1845, and was one of the county's most prominent citizens. His death occurred February 24, 1866. In February, 1823, Dr. William Woodruff, began practice here which he continued until his death, which occurred a short time before the war. Dr. John Sprague came to Meadville in 1823 and died in 1825. His son-in-law, Dr. Ransom Warner remained in practice some time after Dr. Sprague's decease, he then removed to New York. Dr. C. M. Yates opened an office in 1826, and continued in the profession about twenty-five years. Dr. Reynell Coates came to Meadville as a Professor in Allegheny College, in 1829, and practiced four or five years. Dr. Edward Ellis located here in 1826, and for a few years was in the office of Dr. Bemus. In February, 1830, he opened an office on the northeast corner of Water and Walnut Streets, and from that time up to the present he has been in constant practice. For more than half a century Dr. Ellis has ministered to the sick and suffering of Meadville and vicinity, and has witnessed the gradual growth of the town from a borough of less than 1,000 inhabitants to a city of 10,000. Dr. Alexander McLeod entered into partnership with Dr. Bemus in the spring of 1833, and after practicing

medicine a number of years became a minister of the Episcopal Church. During the war he served as Chaplain in the army, returned to Meadville in 1871, and died in 1877. The foregoing list embraces the pioneer physicians of Meadville, who resided in the town a sufficient length of time to become identified with its interests.

Natural Phenomena of Pioneer Days.—The earlier years of the present century were memorable for several of those natural phenomena which affect the minds of men more or less vividly in proportion to their intelligence or freedom from superstitious fears. On the 6th of June, 1806, occurred a total eclipse of the sun. It was a beautiful clear day, and at the time of complete obscuration the chilliness of evening was felt, the dew stood in globules on the plants, the bees hastened to their hives, the fowls to their roosts, and the whip-poor-will whistled his twilight note. The lack of astronomical knowledge caused the Indians to view the waning light with great alarm. To them it was problematical if they would ever again see the sun in its brightness. Having had no former experience or traditions of such events, they could assign no natural cause, and readily charged it to the agency of some powerful, malevolent being. In Cornplanter's town, they gathered to hear what the medicine man would say, and how he would advise. No record was made of what was said, but many rifle shots were fired upwards, hoping thereby to drive the demon away or dissolve the incantation. They were, however, soon relieved of their fears, by the reappearance of the great luminary in all his usual splendor.

On the morning of the 16th of December, 1811, two shocks of earthquake were felt at Meadville, between the hours of 3 and 7 o'clock. The ground rose and fell at intervals, the water in French Creek rushed backward and forward, while the trees waved to and fro as if in a storm, though the air was hardly stirring. The town was again visited by a shock of an earthquake on the morning of January 23, 1812. Its violence was so great as to excite considerable apprehension with many for the safety of their buildings. While the undulation of the earth immediately along French Creek was so great as to cause the utmost fear and astonishment, it is a singular fact that its effects were felt by very few of the inhabitants residing on the rising ground, and then so faintly as to be scarcely perceptible. In the *Messenger* of January 29, 1812, Mr. Atkinson thus comments on the phenomenon: "Whether those astonishing events proceed from local causes, or are the harbingers of an approaching revolution in nature, may be a subject of inquiry with those who dive into the wandering mazes of scientific research; but the considerate and reflecting mind will naturally trace their origin to that Almighty Being at whose presence the earth trembleth, and who hath said that He would 'shake the heavens and the earth, and the sea and the dry land.'"

Several of the vibrations were of sufficient force to cause a creaking sensation in the houses, dishes on the shelves rattled, goods suspended in the stores were set in motion, and the ice on French Creek was split from shore to shore. No injury was sustained, however, beyond a nervous feeling of insecurity necessarily felt when the foundation is yielding to an unknown force.

The next natural phenomenon of any note—which will be remembered by many persons yet living—occurred October 23, 1819, when, between 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning, an uncommon darkness overshadowed the earth. The clouds moved from the southward, and had an unusual brassy appearance. About 10 o'clock the darkness subsided for a short time, but returned before 11, and became so intense as to render it almost impracticable to attend to business, many citizens having recourse to candle-light in their homes and business houses. The few pioneers whom we have spoken with on the subject, refer to that event as "the dark day."

Strange Psychological Phenomenon.—On the 21st of June, 1816, Rev. Timothy Alden wrote to Dr. Samuel L. Mitchell of New York, describing a remarkable case of double consciousness possessed by Miss Mary Reynolds, a sister of John Reynolds, Esq., of Meadville. This letter was published in full in the *Allegheny Magazine*, from which it was copied by Sherman Day when compiling his "Historical Collections" in 1843. Miss Reynolds was born in 1794, and the beginning of this phenomenon was a spell of sickness in 1811. Upon recovery she failed to recognize her father, mother, brothers, sisters or neighbors, and even did not know her own name. Her mind had returned to the blank vacuity of infancy, and she was obliged to recommence her learning with her alphabet, and to be introduced to her family and friends with whom she had long been familiar. She was apparently possessed of a twofold state of consciousness; entirely unconscious in her second state of what she had known and learned in her primary one, and when relapsing into her first state, equally forgetful of what had occurred in her second state. After learning from her friends the circumstances of these changes in her mental faculties, she always suffered acutely on finding the change approaching, a presentiment of which she usually had several days before it came, fearing that she would never again know those whom she loved, not even realizing that she had learned to know them equally well in both conditions. "These astonishing transitions," says Dr. Alden, "scores of times repeated, always take place in her sleep." The final change to her second state occurred in 1829, and from that time until her death in January, 1854, she was perfectly oblivious of everything she had learned or known in her original state. Miss Reynolds was for some time a teacher in one of the primary schools of Meadville, and was a lady of sprightly disposition, and poetic turn of mind.

Visit of La Fayette.—On the 2d of June, 1825, Gen. La Fayette, while on his way from Pittsburgh to Erie, made a brief stop at Meadville. His arrival at James Gibson's Hotel was announced by the firing of cannon, when old and young hastened to get a glimpse of the noted visitor. The large assemblage was formed in lines, and the venerable Frenchman passed along shaking hands with everyone who came within his reach. He was then conducted to Samuel Torbett's Hotel, where the principal ladies of the borough received him with marked attention, having assembled to honor the illustrious hero. Many Revolutionary soldiers came to see the old General, and were received by him with the greatest kindness. The citizens tendered him a public dinner, but his many urgent engagements elsewhere compelled him to decline the courtesy. He reached Meadville between 1 and 2 o'clock P. M., and remained only about two hours, departing amid the cheers and grateful blessings of hundreds, who had felt an intense anxiety to behold the distinguished friend and early companion of Washington, and the gallant champion of American Independence. "Long Live Lafayette," rang out again and again, as the great Frenchman left the town. In the evening a ball was given in honor of the visitor, and his presence only was required to add lustre to the scene, and enhance the enjoyment of the gathered throng. The only accident of the day occurred as the first cannon was fired announcing La Fayette's arrival, by which Patrick Shannon, a gallant Irish volunteer of the artillery corps had one of his hands blown off by a premature discharge. The day, however, was long remembered as one of the most noted in the early history of Meadville.

Meadville in 1830.—It will doubtless be of interest to our readers to recall the names of those who were the active residents of Meadville fifty-four years ago, many of whom were identified with its early settlement. The town in 1830 contained a population of 1,104, and was comprised within the bounda-

ries of Water, North, Liberty and Pine Streets, with a few houses on Dock Street. The buildings were generally of log or frame, but a few of brick, all on the line of the streets. The lots were enclosed with board fences, and the sidewalks were made of gravel or tanbark, with here and there a small piece of brick pavement. Water Street, north from Chestnut, was shaded principally with locust trees, though a beautiful row of Lombardy poplars extended from Centre to Walnut in front of John Reynolds' residence. The sycamores yet standing on Market Street on the property of D. G. Shryock, then shaded the long, low cottage erected by Maj. Roger Alden. In front of the log residence of William McArthur, Sr., on the northwest corner of Walnut and North Main, were fine black walnuts, and the same beautiful maples which add beauty to the home of Hon. G. B. Delamater, then screened from the sun the frame cottage of Col. James Cochran. Apple trees stood in front of the frame residence of Judge John Brooks, on the present site of Dr. J. L. Williamson's dwelling. With these exceptions, the "Diamond," as it was then and is yet called, was bare and destitute of trees, its chief use being a training ground for the volunteer and militia companies and a pasturage for stock.

Wood, the only fuel of that time, was piled on the sides of the streets. The many stores were filled with all the miscellaneous assortments suited to country trade, dry goods, groceries, hardware and drugs, which were exchanged for farm produce, wood, black salts and sugar. Pork and beef were salted and barreled in the rear rooms of the stores, and the upper floors were used as storage places for all kinds of produce. Although the temperance question had for some years excited much attention, the early custom of placing the whisky bottle on the store counter, free to all customers, had not been abandoned. A large part of the country marketing was done by the women, who carried their baskets or bundles on horseback, and dismounted on the "horse blocks," placed in front of each store for their accommodation. On the streets wagons drawn by oxen were common. Merchandise was brought from Philadelphia or Pittsburgh in the huge Conestoga wagons, drawn by four or six horses and carrying from two to three tons, accomplishing the trip from Philadelphia in about four weeks.

During the summer months goods were often brought by keel-boats up the Allegheny and French Creek. Most of the exports were either by keel-boats at low water, or during the floods of spring and fall by rafts and flat-boats, which floated in uninterrupted succession, loaded with lumber, hay, grain, whisky and black salts, to Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and New Orleans. At night the water front on French Creek, from Centre to Dock Street, was filled with rafts and boats, and the town with noisy boatmen. Few stores were located through the sparsely populated county, and Meadville was the center of trade for a circuit of twenty or thirty miles. The principal public roads running into the town at that time were the Susquehanna and Waterford and the Mercer and Meadville turnpikes, both of which were toll roads. A daily line of four-horse mail coaches passed over the latter, making the distance from Pittsburgh to Meadville in twenty-four hours, and thence over the former road from Meadville to Erie in from ten to twelve hours. This was the chief route of travel from the South to Lake Erie. A tri-weekly line of stages also connected with Harrisburg.

The State Road had been cut through the county, but was in an unfinished condition, and at most seasons impassable for wagons. The county roads were rough and unsuited for travel, except by strong wagons, over the wet and low lands, being built with "corduroy." As a result, riding on horseback was much more common than at the present day, the character of the roads

affording little inducement for pleasure-driving. The French Creek Canal had been in process of construction for three years, but was only completed to the aqueduct below Shaw's Landing, which structure was finished by Mr. Cullum in 1830, and in 1833 boats made regular trips from Meadville to Franklin by canal and slack-water navigation. In connection with this, Robert L. Potter, David Dick and other citizens of Meadville, were already undertaking the navigation of the Allegheny by steamboat, and to their enterprise is due the credit for the introduction of the stern-wheel on the Western rivers.

H. J. Huidekoper, Esq., agent of the Holland Land Company, since January, 1805, resided in a two-story white frame cottage with extensions on the north and south, and a piazza the entire front, on the present site of the residence of Rev. Fredric Huidekoper. On the northwest corner of Water and Pine, the site of the Budd House, was a three-storied frame tavern of Livy Barton, whose blacksmith and wagon-shop was in the two-story frame now partly occupied by Long & Swickard's undertaking shop. At this time the tavern was in an unfinished condition, and a large unplastered apartment on the second floor was rented for public entertainments. In this room, its bare walls lighted with dipped tallow-candles in tin sconces, the rough board stage dimly illuminated by a row of the same for footlights, needing constant trimming with the old-fashioned snuffers, the audience seated on rough benches, (the front seats reserved for the ladies), the "Meadville Thespian Society," composed of the young men of the village: W. W. Dick, Archibald Stewart, George King, John Clark, Robert Adrain, W. P. Shattuck, James Buchanan, Sebastian Chappotin and others, rendered most acceptably the pathos of tragedy or the mirth of comedy. The late Robert Adrain, then a jolly, witty young Irishman, was the comedian, while W. P. Shattuck personated the character of the heroine of romance.

Nearly opposite Barton's shop was the rival one of John Radle. A broad front stairway and porch gave access to the family residence on the second floor, and the busy hammer rang the anvil chorus beneath. Near the site of the Gable House was the curious workshop of Brazilla Goodrich, the ingenious man of the town, and jack-of-all-trades, wood-worker, pattern-maker, locksmith, clock and watch repairer, artificer in brass, silver or iron, house-mover and owner of the only billiard table in the village. His shop was filled with tools of his own invention and manufacture suited to every conceivable purpose. Although crippled by rheumatism and thin and weak in body, he was a most useful citizen.

On the site of the Gable House was the "Lion Tavern," kept by John E. Smith, which was the office of the Bellefont mail stage. Mr. Smith, formerly a teamster between Philadelphia and Erie, was a popular landlord with his country customers, keeping a house suited to their tastes. Andrew Smith, merchant, occupied the southeast corner of Arch and Water Streets.

Roswell Sexton was the owner and host of a yellow frame tavern on the opposite corner of Arch, from which a garden and grass plot with fruit-trees, extended north to the bank of Mill Run. Here beneath the shade of the spreading branches, the patriotic citizens sometimes celebrated the National holiday, with Fourth of July orations, around the festive board of the genial landlord.

On the west side of Water Street was the tanyard of Kennedy Davis, and close to it the store of Wood & Perkins. In a yellow frame building on the southwest corner of Dock and Water Streets, was the drug-store of Samuel W. Magill, subsequently co-editor of the Meadville *Courier*, and editor of the *Democratic-Republican*. Dr. C. M. Yates this year moved into the brick house

built by William and James Foster about 1820, on the northwest corner of Dock and Water Streets.

Samuel Torbett's tavern (sign of the buck) stood on the southwest corner of Water and Chestnut, and was a well-finished two-story frame building, deservedly noted for its good table and comfortable accommodations. Here Gen. La Fayette was tendered a reception by the ladies of Meadville June 2, 1825, when on his way from Pittsburgh to Erie. On the opposite side of Water Street a short distance south of Chestnut was the barnyard of Torbett's tavern, and within its precincts the menageries of the early days were exhibited, the first of which was Harrington's circus.

Col. Daniel Shryock lived and carried on the mercantile business on the east side of Water Street, where the fine Shryock Block now stands. North of the alley from Shryock's store Miss Jennette C. Benedict taught school in a small, one-story frame building. Still farther north, in a quaint Dutch looking structure, was the bakery of Jacob Flury, noted for his La Fayette cakes, mead and small beer. Colson & Smith, merchants, occupied the center of the block; then came Torbett's barnyard, and on the southeast corner of Water and Chestnut stood the frame store of Oscar Cullum.

Where now is Ohlman's store in the Delamater Block was the tavern of Capt. James Gibson, for many years the Pittsburgh and Erie stage office, a favorite resting place for travelers, and whose cheerful parlor had witnessed many a scene of hilarious mirth in times past, when around the card table and punch bowl were assembled the visiting lawyers from Pittsburgh, Mercer, Franklin and Erie during the intervals of judicial duties. It was at this tavern that Gen. La Fayette dined when passing through the village on the 2d of June, 1825. Opposite Gibson's tavern was the store of his son, John Gibson, while H. C. Bosler resided in a long log-house built in 1796–97 by his grandfather, John Carver, where now stands the dry goods house of George D. Trawin, in the Corinthian Block.

Across the alley from the Corinthian Block, in the house now occupied by L. D. Dunn, was the store of George S. King. Messrs. Hiram Betts and Jefferson Limber commenced the tailoring business this year (1830), in the north room of the house then owned by Eliphalet Betts and the home of the former until his death.

At the sign of the "Spread Eagle," on the southeast corner of Centre and Water Streets, Mrs. Henry Hurst yet kept the tavern erected by her husband, now deceased. Opposite in the old building erected by Bartholomew White, which was removed in the spring of 1880, John B. Hunter had opened a book store and bindery.

Col. William Magaw lived in his brick dwelling, now the "Central Hotel," erected by him in 1819, and occupied the south room with his store. He was engaged in the manufacture of white and straw paper at Woodcock, and about this period, with William A. V. Magaw, had machinery for the manufacture of paper placed in the "Red Mill" on Water Street. He was the first to invent and successfully practice in America the manufacture of paper from straw by the use of alkalies.

Dr. Daniel Bemus, the second resident physician of Meadville, and owner of the then important flouring and saw-mills some two miles north of town, lived in the frame house erected by him on Water Street about 1814, and now the residence of Rev. Richard Craighead.

On the opposite side of the street was the frame residence of John Reynolds, Esq., who came to Meadville in 1805, and was a leading citizen of the town throughout his long and upright life. He was a man of good education,

and during his later years contributed a number of articles to the press, from which we have obtained a large portion of the matter embraced in this and other chapters. John McFarland had the past year (1829) moved his store into the brick building yet standing on the northwest corner of Walnut and Water Streets.

Dr. Edward Ellis, who after more than half a century, still continues in active practice, opened an office this year (1830) in the building on the northeast corner of Walnut and Water Streets.

Jared Shattuck, merchant, lived in the house erected at the head of Water Street, by Gen. Mead in 1797, and now the residence of Dr. Edward Ellis. His yellow frame store was on the corner of Randolph and Terrace Streets. Mr. Shattuck was an active, enterprising citizen, and about this time operated a distillery on his farm some three miles northwest of the town.

James White resided in the house now occupied by A. C. Huidekoper on Terrace Street. His tannery and yard were immediately north of his residence.

In a log-house near the center of the grounds of Hon. William Reynolds lived Samuel Lord, one of the earliest pioneers and for many years a Justice of the Peace. His tract of land was patented under the name of "Mount Hope." The site of Allegheny College was donated by Mr. Lord to the Trustees of that institution, and the deed for five acres handed to Rev. Timothy Alden on the 5th of July, 1820, the day the corner stone of Bentley Hall was laid.

There were several business houses on Chestnut Street east of Water Street. Hill & McCurdy manufactured hats on the site of Harry Pierson's meat market. J. & J. R. Dick carried on the mercantile business in the brick building where now is Philip Bender's saloon. On the southwest corner of Market and Chestnut Streets was the stone tavern of Capt. Richard Patch, now occupied by a milliner's store; while between Park Avenue and the Methodist Episcopal Church was the store of John P. Davis.

Around the Diamond were several residences and business places. On the site of the First Methodist Episcopal Church was the store of Judge John Brooks, erected by his son-in-law, Connor Clark, in 1821. Mr. Clark, who was an enterprising citizen of the town died March 24, 1826, and Judge Brooks succeeded him in business. The Crawford Hotel this year passed from the proprietorship of its builder, George Hurst (sign of the cross keys), to Mr. Jesse Rupp, who for many years conducted a popular and prosperous hotel at this stand. On the south end of the lot where the court house stands was the residence and office of Thomas Atkinson, editor and publisher of the Crawford *Weekly Messenger*. August Bradley carried on chair-making in the house now the residence of Rev. J. V. Reynolds. Near the northwest corner of the Diamond, where the daughters of the late E. A. Reynolds reside, was the postoffice. Daniel Andrews had been postmaster since 1814 and continued to fill the position until 1841.

Hon. John B. Wallace lived on the west side of the Diamond on the lot owned by the late Judge David Derickson. The old log-jail yet occupied the site of Brawley & McClintock's law office, and Judge Derickson then resided in the house now the home of Hon. H. L. Richmond.

Samuel S. Adrain lived opposite his cooper shop, which was on the south side of Walnut, between Park Avenue and the Diamond, while on the southwest part of Rev. T. L. Flood's grounds stood the log-tavern (sign of the bear), kept by Samuel Gehr.

Roderick Frazier was running a tannery on the corner of Plum and Steers' Alleys, and also carried on a boot and shoe factory on North Main Street, and

the Pattersons—John and Joseph—had two tanneries, the former in the southeast suburb of the town, and the latter on Mill Run, west of Water Street.

Lot Lewis had been operating a carding and fulling-mill about ten years on Mill Run, in the building still occupied as a carding-mill by Edward Northam.

Some old houses yet remain, which the few pioneers now living will, doubtless, remember as familiar in their childhood, a few dating back into the past century. The most ancient of these is the residence of Dr. Edward Ellis, at the head of Water Street, built by David Mead, in 1797. The old frame on the northeast corner of Water Street and Cherry Alley was erected in 1798 by Mr. William Dick. In the upper story of this building the courts were held until the erection of the log court house and jail in 1804. The small frame just north of the McFarland Bottling Works on Water Street, was built by Col. Joseph Hackney, in 1797, for a store. The Citizens Hotel (built of logs), was occupied about the close of the last century by Alexander Buchanan. From 1804 to 1811 it was kept by David Compton, under the name of the Washington House.

In 1805 the house on the northeast corner of Water and Walnut Streets, previously erected, was occupied as the residence and store of Maj. James Herriott, who was in his time a man of great energy and of much business ability. He amassed quite a fortune for those days, and owned extensive tracts of timber land, and considerable real estate in Meadville. His prosperity, however, deserted him, and he ended his days in the western part of the county in very reduced circumstances.

Frederick Haymaker erected the small frame house on the northeast corner of North and Market Streets at a very early day. He also built the log-house (weather boarded) next south of Mrs. John McFarland's, afterward the residence of Hon. Patrick Farrelly.

The frame on the southeast corner of Water and Centre Streets was built very early and kept by Gen. Henry Hurst, a prominent citizen of the village, and was the Republican or Anti-Federal headquarters during the first years of the nineteenth century. The old log Federal tavern which stood on the southwest corner of the same streets, was erected and carried on by Bartholomew White, who was killed in the war of 1812. It was removed in the spring of 1880.

The house on the east side of Water Street, south of Centre, in which Hiram Betts resided until his death a few years ago, was erected by his father, Eliphalet Betts, in 1804, while the home of A. C. Huidekoper on the Terrace was built by James White in 1806, being the first brick residence erected in the village. Capt. Richard Patch built the old stone on the southwest corner of Chestnut and Market Streets quite early. The comfortable home of Rev. Richard Craighead, on Water Street, was erected by Dr. Daniel Bemus about 1814, and the building immediately north on the same lot was built by Dr. Bemus about 1817 for an office, one room being occupied by Connor Clark, merchant. Col. William Magaw erected the building now the Central Hotel in 1819, and the same year George Hurst finished and occupied the "Cross Keys" tavern, now the Crawford House. The drug store of Yates Bros., on Water Street, was built for a residence by William and James Foster about 1820. The two-story brick building south of the Unitarian Church was erected for county offices in 1819, and Edward Northam's frame carding-mill, near the corner of North and Liberty Streets, was built by Lot Lewis about 1820.

Hon. H. L. Richmond occupies the old homestead of the late Judge David Derickson, erected in 1828, and Mrs. John McFarland still resides in the house built by her husband the same year.

J. M. Gamble

The academy building on Market Street, now occupied by the High School, was erected in 1826, the institution having used the old building which stood on the southwest corner of Chestnut and Liberty Streets since 1805 This latter structure was the pioneer brick building of Meadville, and after its abandonment by the school was remodeled into a residence, and on its site is now the home of James Davis, Esq.

Old Meadville may yet be seen on the east side of Water Street from Cherry alley to North Street, most of the houses dating back prior to 1830. These old landmarks, with perhaps a few others which could be mentioned, comprise all that remains of the village of fifty four years ago. The quiet streets are changed to busy thoroughfares, the slow ox-wagon, the country woman on horseback, the huge Conestoga wagon with its horses and bells are no longer seen. The old stores and shops and the old taverns with their quaint old-fashioned names and signs are gone forever. Here and there young faces transmit the lineaments of their ancestors. The larger number of the busy citizens of that day have been laid with the great army of the dead. A few are yet seen amid the busy throng, some bowed down with the weight of years, a very few still cheerfully bearing their part in life's work. Most of the old hospitable homes have given place to the thriving store or luxurious residence. Cottages and orchards dot the hillside, then clothed in primeval forest.

The cheery call of the pilot, and the boisterous mirth of the boatman have long been silenced by the whistle of the engine and the rumble of the railway train. The canal, which we have seen ushered into existence with pomp and parade, is buried with the achievements of the past. The old stage-coach with its self-important driver, its tired, dusty passengers, its tooting horn announcing the arrival of news sixty days from Europe, ten days from Boston and six days from New York and Philadelphia, has no more room in the busy present. Even the old burying ground is a resting place no longer; streets, houses and happy children greet us, where once the dead were buried.

CHAPTER II.

RELIGIOUS HISTORY—FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN AND UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES—FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH—STATE STREET METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH—AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH—CHRIST PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH—INDEPENDENT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH—FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH—LUTHERAN EVANGELICAL TRINITY CHURCH—ST. PAUL'S REFORMED CHURCH—ST. AGATHA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH—ST. BRIDGET'S CATHOLIC CHURCH—MEADVILLE HEBREW SOCIETY—FIRST EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT CHURCH—PARK AVENUE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

IN all departments of human enterprise the outward expression will in time come to correspond with the inward life or appreciation. In that state, or society, where wealth is not more lavished upon social luxury than upon those institutions which have for their aim the elevation of the people morally and intellectually, we may safely look for a commonwealth in which all truly wise parents will gladly place their children. To a stranger in her midst who is weighing these serious considerations, Meadville may without boasting say, "Look at my churches and my schools." Shall we essay to honor the men

who year after year have helped, by wise counsel and wiser action, to uprear these structures dedicated to religion and learning? Lo! their works praise them. Tower, and spire, and firm foundation stone are mute but eloquent eulogists. This, without doubt, is now, and will continue to be, one of the chief elements which conduce to the growth of Meadville, and which cannot fail to attract as residents a most desirable class of citizens.

First Presbyterian Church.—Rev. Elisha McCurdy, a member of the Presbytery of Ohio, and Rev. Joseph Stockton, a licentiate of the same Presbytery, were the first ordained ministers who preached within the bounds of what is now Crawford County. In 1799 they were sent out by the Presbytery on a missionary tour, and among other places preached in Meadville. During the next year Mr. Stockton received an invitation to preach statedly at this place, and in the autumn of 1800 he accordingly, in company with his young wife, left his paternal home in Washington County, Penn., on horseback, bringing some household goods with them, and in due time reached Meadville. Over this church, in connection with that of Little Sugar Creek, now Cochranton, he was ordained as pastor on the 24th of June, 1801. He continued to perform the duties of a Pastor to these churches until the 27th of June, 1810, when the relation was dissolved by the Presbytery of Erie. In addition to the duties devolving upon him in these two churches, he traveled through and preached at different points in Mercer and Erie Counties, and was the first Principal of the Meadville Academy, opened in 1805. The first Elders of the Meadville Church were John Cotton, Robert Stockton and Hugh Cotton.

The second Pastor of this church was Rev. Robert Johnston, who was installed October 15, 1811, over the churches of Meadville, Little Sugar Creek (now Cochranton), and Conneaut (now Evansburg), dividing his time equally between Meadville and the other two congregations. This relation continued until April, 1817. During his pastorate, with the assistance of Thomas Atkinson, of the *Messenger*, Mr. Johnston organized a Sunday-school, which was opened in December, 1814. It had no regular official Board, but was a spontaneous effort to bring the youth of the village under the influence of moral teaching. At their meeting in January, 1815, the Board of Trustees fixed the Pastor's salary for the Meadville church at $200 per annum, from which we can infer that the position was not a bonanza.

The first meetings were held in private houses, and afterward in the old academy on the corner of Chestnut and Liberty Streets and in the court room of the old log court house and jail, which stood on the side of Brawley & McClintock's office, near the home of the late Judge Derickson. On the 5th of February, 1818, a contract for the erection of a church was let to George Davis. It was to be a brick building 60x70 feet in dimensions, finished within two years, at a total cost of $6,500. The Building Committee was composed of the following well remembered pioneers: William Clark, William Foster, Samuel Torbett, Daniel Bemus and John Reynolds. The site chosen was where the present church stands, and the building was completed and the pews sold August 14, 1820, to pay the cost of construction. The Sale Committee were: John Reynolds, H. J. Huidekoper, Levy Barton, John Brooks and James Hamilton. All the inhabitants of the village used this building as a place of worship until 1825, in which year the Methodists fitted up a room on South Main Street.

Rev. John Van Liew succeeded Mr. Johnston, entering upon his labors in August, 1821, and devoting his entire time to the Meadville Church. His pastorate continued three years, when, on account of impaired health, it was dissolved. He was succeeded by Rev. Wells Bushnell, whose ministry con-

tinued for a period of just seven years, when he went as a missionary to the Wea Indians, the church at Meadville reluctantly consenting to his withdrawal. The next pastor was Rev. Nathaniel West, who remained two years. Rev. John V. Reynolds, D D., succeeded Mr. West, and for thirty years filled the pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery dissolving the relation at his request in April, 1869. His successor was the Rev. James G. Carnachan, LL. D., who continued as pastor for twelve years. During his pastorate, in 1874–75, the present handsome building was erected at a cost of about $43,000, and dedicated August 22, 1875. It stands on the southwest corner of Liberty and Center Streets, has a seating capacity of 750, and is regarded as one of the finest church properties in Meadville. The pastor's residence is on the opposite corner from the church, and is a comfortable two-story frame. The present pastor, Rev. Edward P. Sprague, took charge in November, 1881, but the membership had been greatly reduced the previous spring by the withdrawal of a large portion of the members and congregation in the organization of Park Avenue Congregational Church. The membership at present is 145, and the Sunday-school, which was first opened in December, 1814, and regularly organized in 1819, contains about 125 scholars. The church has now quite a substantial fund for the benefit of the poor, donated by the late Alanson Lindley, and named the "Alanson Lindley Fund for the Poor," of which only the interest can be used.

Second Presbyterian Church.—On the 17th of June, 1839, a division took place in the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church, the portion called the Old School retaining possession of the building, while the portion designated as the New School went out to form a new organization under the title of the Second Presbyterian Church. The wants of the new congregation were for a short time supplied by Revs. Lyon, Lockwood, Anderson and West, but the first regular stated supply was Rev. E. W. Kellogg, who acted in that capacity until the close of April, 1841. The congregation first worshiped in the lecture room of the First Church; but subsequently the brick building on Center Street, now the barn of the Central Hotel, was fitted up and worship held in it. Afterward, the building known then as the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, opposite the jail, was obtained and services held there until the completion of the lecture-room of their own church on Center Street, in 1843. The main audience-room of this building was completed June 30, 1844, the structure having cost about $15,000. In 1869 the building was considerably enlarged, and a tower built on each front corner, the improvement costing about $9,000.

Rev. Robinson S. Lockwood commenced his labors in this congregation May 9, 1841, and served until October 19, 1843, when he was dismissed from the pastoral charge of the church.

Rev. Richard Craighead was the next pastor of the church, entering upon his duties in November, 1843; his ministry extended over a period of thirty-one years ere the relation was dissolved. It was during his pastorate that the building on Center Street was completed and subsequently enlarged, and to his earnest labors the Second Presbyterian Church of Meadville is largely indebted for its present flourishing condition. Mr. Craighead was succeeded by Rev. Thomas D. Logan, who, after supplying the pulpit for about six months, was installed pastor in February, 1875, and yet acceptably fills that position. The church now numbers 304 members, and has a Sunday-school of about 160 scholars. Under the earnest labors of the present pastor, the church has retained its old-time vigor, and kept pace with the growth and progress of the city.

The Cumberland Presbyterian and United Presbyterian Churches had each a society here for a few years. The former erected a brick building on the corner of Center Street and Chancery Lane in the summer of 1834, but after an existence of about two years the society disorganized, and the building was sold. The United Presbyterians never had a building in Meadville, but worshipped in a frame structure owned by the Old School Presbyterians, which stood on the corner of what is now Park Avenue and Center Street. The society was occasionally attended by Rev. John Findley, of Waterford, Erie County; Rev. H. H. Thompson, of Cochranton, and Rev. Joseph Waddle, of Evansburg. The organization was effected about 1840, and lasted some eight or ten years, when it gradually went down and finally ceased to exist.

First Methodist Episcopal Church.—This church was organized in 1825 in the old Presbyterian Church, by Rev. Robert C. Hatton, and then comprised but eighteen members, viz: John Lupher, Wesley Bowman, Griffith Bennett, Richard Hope, Robert Adrain and Jabez Goodrich with their families, and Hannah Lowry, Betty Randall (Blind Betty), Sarah Johnson, Margaret Johnson, Nancy Mattocks and Thomas Benn. The society was small and poor, and unable to erect a place of worship; but soon after its organization Mr. Lupher, who was Class Leader, fitted up a room over his blacksmith-shop, in the frame building yet standing on the southeast corner of Arch and South Main Streets, and here the little flock continued to worship for about nine years, growing gradually in numbers and wealth. In 1830 the congregation began the erection of the old brick building on Arch Street adjoining St. Bridget's Catholic Church, which was finished in November, 1834, at a total cost of about $3,000. This building was never formally dedicated, though used by the Methodists of Meadville for thirty-two years. Early in 1866 it was sold to St. Bridget's Congregation, who yet own it. The corner-stone of the large, massive stone structure on the southwest corner of South Main Street and the Diamond, was laid by Bishop Calvin Kingsley, June 5, 1866; and it was dedicated July 29, 1868, Bishop Mathew Simpson preaching in the morning, and the Rev. Punchon, of Ontario, Canada, at the evening service. The building was presented during the latter service, on behalf of the congregation, by Hon. H. L. Richmond to Bishop Kingsley, who thereupon performed the ceremony of dedication. It has a seating capacity of 1,200 and cost when completed about $69,100, and the lot $15,000, making the total expense something over $84,000.

Since the organization of the church by Rev. Robert C. Hatton in 1825, the congregation has been attended by the following ministers: 1826, Revs. J. W. Hill and I. H. Tackitt; 1827, Revs. C. Brown, J. Leach and I. H. Tackitt; 1828, Revs. Job Wilson and W. R. Babcock; 1829, Revs. N. Callender and A. Callender; 1830, Revs. A. Callender and A. Plimpton; 1831, Rev. J. S. Barris; 1832, Rev. D. Preston; 1833, Rev. H. J. Clarke; 1834, Rev. J. Robinson; 1835, Rev. R. Clapp; 1836–37, Rev. E. Birkett; 1838, Rev. J. J. Steadman; 1839, Rev. Solomon Gregg; 1840, Rev. J. H. Whallon; 1841–42, Rev. B. S. Hill; 1842, Rev. C. Kingsley; 1843, Rev. J. R. Locke; 1844, Rev. Alfred G. Sturgiss; 1845, Rev. M. Hill; 1845, Rev. A. Callender (supplied); 1846, Rev. M. Hill; 1847, Rev. T. Graham; 1848, Rev. M. H. Bettes; 1849–50, Rev. John Bain; 1851–52, Rev. E. J. Kenney; 1853–54, Rev. N. Norton; 1855, Rev. G. B. Hawkins; 1856–57, Rev. G. W. Maltby; 1858–59, Rev. E. A. Johnson; 1860–61, Rev. T. Stubbs; 1862, Rev. J. E. Chapin; 1863–65, Rev. W. F. Day; 1866–67, Rev. B. Excell; 1867, Rev. L. D. Williams (supplied); 1868, Rev. J. Peate; 1868, Rev. L. D. Williams (supplied); 1869–71, Rev. Alfred Wheeler; 1871, Rev. L. D. Williams (supplied); 1872, Rev. W W. Wythe; 1872, Rev. L. D. Williams (supplied); 1873, Rev. W. W. Wythe; 1874–76,

Rev. W. F. Day; 1877–79, Rev. T. L. Flood; 1880–82, Rev. J. G. Townsend; 1883–84, Rev. E. D. McCreary. The present membership is 450, and connected with the church is a Sunday-school organized in 1830, and now possessing a scholarship of about 400.

State Street Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in June, 1869, and soon a neat, plain, substantial frame building was completed at a cost of about $9,000. It stands on State Street above its intersection with North, and will seat about 400 persons. The first pastor of this church was Rev. T. P. Warner, who served the congregation throughout 1869. His successors have been as follows: 1870–71, Rev. W. Sampson; 1872, Revs. J. S. Albertson and N. Norton; 1873, Rev. J. S. Albertson; 1874, Rev. W. H. Wilson; 1875, Rev. R. M. Bear; 1876–77, Rev. O. Babcock; 1878, Rev. A. S. Dobbs; 1879, Rev. J. B. Espy; 1880–81, Rev. A. J. Lindsey; 1882, Rev. A. W. Decker (supplied); 1883, Revs. O. L. Mead and G. W. Clarke; 1884, Rev. O. L. Mead. The church embraces about 175 members, and has a Sunday-school of 120 scholars.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1850, with five members, by Rev. Jacob Palmer, the first pastor of the congregation. They held services for a time in a small brick building in the rear of the Lutheran Church, but in 1853 purchased from the Baptists for $500 their present property on the northeast corner of Liberty and Arch Streets. The building was repaired in 1867, partially destroyed by fire in 1876, and rebuilt the same year. The church record only goes back to 1861, since which time the following preachers have had charge: Revs. John Franklin, Hanfield, John Gibbons, W. H. Brown, Benjamin Wheeler, J. M. Morris, Benjamin Wheeler, W. J. Phillips, W. P. Ross, E. C. Herbet, J. M. Griffin, John Russell, J. M. Palmer and R. H. Jackson. The membership is now about seventy, and the attendance at Sunday-school averages about forty children.

Christ Protestant Episcopal Church was organized January 25, 1825, by the Rev. J. H. Hopkins, Rector of Trinity Church, Pittsburgh, and afterward Bishop of Vermont. He came to Meadville at the solicitation of Hon. John B. Wallace, a leading attorney of the town; and the first services were held in the old Presbyterian Church. Mr. Hopkins remained some two weeks, during which time he preached frequently and baptized thirty-two adults and forty-three children. On the 18th of January, 1826, Rev. Charles Smith was appointed to take charge of the newly organized congregation, and at once entered upon his labors. In August of the same year the vestry decided to erect a house of worship, and on the 11th of April, 1827, the corner-stone was laid by Rev. Charles Smith, assisted by Rev. Benjamin Hutchins. The building committee in charge of its erection were, Henry Shippen, Jared Shattuck, William Magaw, David Dick and Robert L. Potter, and August 16, 1828, the church which stood on the site of the present one was dedicated by Bishop H. W. Underdonk, who in his remarks said that in point of architectural beauty the building was the finest in the diocese. It was the first Protestant Episcopal Church erected in the State west of the Allegheny River, would seat 500 persons, and cost about $8,000. This building was enlarged in 1832 and again in 1863 to make room for the growing congregation, but in April, 1883, it was torn down to give place to the new and more elegant structure now occupying its site.

Mr. Smith served until April 27, 1829, when he resigned, and the following Rectors have since had charge of the parish: Rev. J. W. James, August 7, 1829, to September, 1832; Rev. Edward Y. Buchanan, May 5, 1833, to June 1, 1834; Rev. Thomas Crumpton, July 27, 1834, to October 17, 1840; Rev. John P. Hosmer, November 1, 1840, to 1841; Rev. Orrin Miller, June 17,

1842, to March 15, 1844; Rev. Alexander Varian, April 14, 1844, to May 20, 1846; Rev. William Carmichael, D. D., August 16, 1846, to September 25, 1850; Rev. Alexander Varian, April 16, 1851, to March 25, 1858; Rev. R. W. Lewis, April, 1858, to September, 1859; Rev. Marison Byllesby, November, 1859, to June 30, 1869; Rev. George C. Rafter, November 2, 1869, to December 3, 1870; Rev. W. G. W. Lewis, February 20, 1871, to December, 1875; Rev. Daniel I. Edwards, January, 1876, to January, 1878; Rev. G. A. Carstensen, March 1878, to May, 1882; Rev. W. H. Lewis, August, 1882, and is the present incumbent.

Since the organization of Christ Church up to the close of 1883, the record shows a total of 723 baptisms, divided as follows: From 1825 to 1845, 162; 1845 to 1865, 173; 1865 to 1883, 388. The confirmations have been: 1834 to 1845, 110; 1845 to 1865, 145; 1865 to 1883, 225—total, 480. In January, 1825, there were upon the record twenty-four communicants, or eight men and sixteen women; in 1858, 117; 1870, 165; 1883, 225. The Sunday-school numbered five teachers and about forty scholars in 1825; 1846, fifteen teachers and ninety scholars; 1882, 20 teachers and 170 scholars. The parish now contains (August, 1884,) 160 families, 223 communicants, twenty Sunday-school teachers and 175 scholars. The corner stone of the new and elegant stone edifice at the northwest corner of the Diamond was laid July 14, 1883, by the Rector, Rev. W. H. Lewis, assisted by Revs. Marison Byllesby and G. A. Carstensen. On Sunday, March 23, 1884, the church was formally opened for services by Bishop Whitehead, assisted by Rev. Dr. Herron, of New Castle, Penn., and the Rector of the parish. The building and furnishings, as it now stands, cost about $30,000, from which over $2,500 may be deducted as the cost of individual and family memorial gifts, which decorate the interior, and $225 for the bell, presented by the scholars and teachers of the Sunday-school. On the same lot is a comfortable rectory built in 1878 at an expense of $2,700. This church is undoubtedly the most beautiful piece of church architecture in Meadville, has a seating capacity of 425, and reflects great credit on the architect, builder and congregation. Both interior and exterior display that generous expenditure characteristic of the Protestant Episcopal denomination.

The Independent Congregational Church, more generally known as the Unitarian, was organized in 1825 chiefly through the efforts and influence of H. J. Huidekoper, Esq. The first minister was Rev. John M. Merrick, who entered upon his duties in October, 1825, and served the congregation just two years. Services were first held in the old Presbyterian Church, and subsequently in the court house. In 1835 the present church edifice at the southeast corner of the Diamond was commenced, and dedicated August 20, 1836. It cost about $3,500, independent of the lot, which was donated by H. J. Huidekoper, Esq., and Miss Margaret Shippen. The ministers who served the church from its organization were as follows: Rev. John M. Merrick, 1825–27; vacancy, 1827–28; Rev. Washington Gilbert, 1828–30; Rev. Ephraim Peabody, 1830–31; Rev. George Nichols, 1831–32; Rev. Alanson Brigham, 1832–33; Revs. A. D. Wheeler and W. H. Channing, 1834; Rev. John Q. Day, 1834–37; Rev. Henry Emmons, 1837–43; Rev. E. G. Holland, 1843–44; Rev. Rufus P. Stebbins, D. D., 1844–49; Rev. Nathaniel S. Folsom (with coadjutors Revs. Rufus P. Stebbins, D. D., and J. F. Clarke) 1849–53; Rev. C. A. Staples, 1854–57; Rev. Oliver Stearns, D. D., 1858; Rev. R. R. Shippen, 1859; Rev Richard H. Metcalf, 1860–65; Rev. John C. Zachos, 1866–68; Rev. Henry P. Cutting, 1870–73; Rev. Robert S. Morrison, 1874–78; Rev. James T. Bixby, 1879–83; Rev. William P. Tilden, 1884.

In 1876 the Unitarian Chapel, a substantial two-story brick building, was erected immediately east of the church at an expense of about $6,000, and opened in the autumn of that year. It is used for social gatherings and Sunday-school purposes, and the interior arrangements are complete for the end contemplated. The church embraces a respectable membership, while the mission Sunday-school averages 175 scholars. The brick building immediately south of the church is also the property of the congregation, and has been used as a parsonage. It is one of the oldest structures in the city, having been erected for county offices in 1819.

First Baptist Church.—In the summer of 1831 the Rev. Adrian Foote, of Ripley, N. Y., came to Meadville for the purpose of organizing into a congregation the few Baptists then living in this vicinity. He obtained the use of the First Presbyterian building, where he preached on four successive afternoons, assisted in the work by the Rev. William Gildersleeve, of Allegheny; and on the 23d of August, 1831, a number of those who had taken part in the meetings assembled at said building and formed "The Baptist Conference of Meadville." On the 27th of August the Rev. Gildersleeve baptized seven persons in a small lake east of the town, and on the same date the Conference voted to call a council from eight of the nearest Baptist Churches, to assemble a month later to consider the subject of establishing an independent church. Revs. Foote and Gildersleeve returned in four weeks and held a series of meetings in the academy on Market Street, now the high school building. Finally, on Saturday, September 27, 1831, representatives of four churches—Randolph, Carmel, Allegheny and Rockdale—met in the academy building and formed the Baptist Church of Meadville. The membership then embraced fourteen persons. viz: Francis Ross, Samuel Harroun, Justin Dewey, Stillman Dewey, John Goodwill, Thomas Sails, Samuel Kirkpatrick, Rachel Ross, Maria Harroun, Mary Dewey, Susan Dewey, Lucy Goodwill, Jane Van Horne and Julia Weller. The first meeting of the church after its organization was held at the house of Samuel Kirkpatrick, on Arch Street, as the academy building could not be obtained.

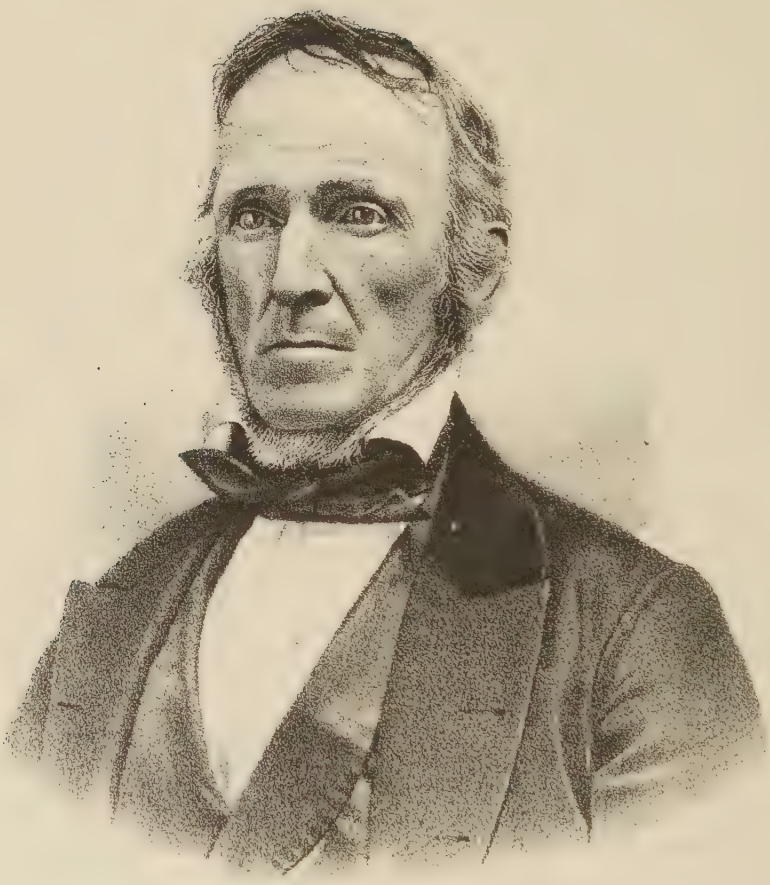
On the 12th of May, 1832, Elder Foote became the settled pastor of the church, and August 15 of that year the first steps were taken to procure a lot and erect a house of worship. Ground was purchased on the northeast corner of Arch and Liberty Streets, and a small, plain frame building erected thereon, which was first opened for services June 8, 1833. This building was used for about twenty years, then sold to the African Methodist Episcopal Church, who remodeled it some eight years ago. Elder Foote served until August, 1834, and was succeeded by Rev. E. Hicks, who officiated as a supply. In March, 1838, Rev. Edward M. Miles was engaged to preach, dividing his services between the churches at Meadville and Georgetown, Mercer County. After he left, the church was without a pastor for some time, and dwindled down to four active members, but these kept up the organization, and in the summer of 1841 Rev. William Look became pastor, and remained two years. Another vacancy in the pastorate now occurred, regular services were abandoned, and a state of great depression existed, almost leading to disorganization. In June, 1845, Rev. Franklin Kidder took charge of the church, spending half his time at Georgetown, and continued until August, 1846, when he was released from further service. Since that time the following ministers have served the Meadville Church: Rev. John Nicholson, 1847; Rev. G. L. Stevens, January, 1848, to February, 1851; Rev. I. M. Chapman, March, 1851, to March, 1852; Rev. William A. Caldwell, March, 1852, to December, 1852; Rev. J. H. Hazen, January, 1853, to January 28, 1855; Rev. George W. Fuller, June,

1855, to April, 1858; Rev. I. M. Chapman, May, 1858, to April 22, 1860; Rev. William Look, May, 1860, to May 3, 1862; Rev. B. C. Willioughby, August, 1862, to April 2, 1864; Rev. R. B. Kelsey, August 7, 1864, to December 2, 1866; Rev. R. H. Austin, December 16, 1866, to May 21, 1871; Rev. J. H. Langille, April, 1871, to September 29, 1872; Rev. W. B. Grow, January, 1873, to November 9, 1873; (vacancy for one year); Rev. William M. Young, D. D., December 2, 1874, to November 3, 1878; Rev. George Whitman, April 15, 1879, to February 26, 1882; Rev. E. M. Haynes, D. D., May 21, 1882, who still continues to fill the pastorate.

In April, 1852, the lot on which the present building stands, on Center Street, was purchased for the sum of $1,050, and the erection of a new brick edifice commenced that year. The work was pushed forward through 1853, and though the building was enclosed, only the basement was carried to completion, being occupied and dedicated in the summer of 1854. The old building having previously been sold, the congregation rented the lecture-room of the First Presbyterian Church, which was used until their own was finished. Early in 1865 the main audience-room was completed, first occupied February 16, and dedicated on Sunday, February 19, 1865. In the summer of 1875 an addition of thirty feet was made to the building, heating furnaces put in, and other improvements carried out at a total expense of about $5,500. The building has now a seating capacity of about 400, and the membership of the church is about 250, while the average Sunday-school attendance may be estimated at 200.

Lutheran Evangelical Trinity Church.—The first German congregations in this county were usually composed of the adherents of both the Lutheran and German Reformed denominations, neither being able to maintain public worship as separate bodies. In 1815 Rev. Charles W. Colson, then stationed at Plainfield, Northampton Co., Penn., went on a missionary tour to Ohio, and returning by way of Meadville, preached to the few Germans then living in this locality. It was rarely they heard the Gospel preached in their native tongue, so they made a proposition to Mr. Colson to come to Meadville, and succeeded in inducing him to accept it. Accordingly, in the spring of 1816, Mr. Colson settled in this town, and began the labor of hunting up the German families scattered throughout northwestern Pennsylvania and organizing them into churches. He formed congregations in Meadville, in the vicinity of Saegertown, and near Conneaut Lake, also at Erie. Little is known of these early churches, which, upon the death of Mr. Colson, December 29, 1816, gradually disbanded, or remained for years in a state of disorganization. Occasionally a Lutheran or Reformed minister would visit this county and preach to the Germans. Among the earliest and most prominent who came to Meadville after Mr. Colson's death were Rev. Philip Zeiser, of the Reformed Church, and the Revs. David Mock and John Kugler, of the Lutheran denomination.

Up to 1847 occasional union services were held in the court house, but in that year the Lutherans and Reformers purchased a lot on Pine Street, between South Main and Liberty, and erected thereon a frame building, the whole costing $1,800. The church was dedicated December 19, 1847, by Rev. Jacob Zeigler, a Lutheran minister, and Rev. Benjamin Boyer, of the Reformed faith. From that time forward separate organizations existed, each congregation occupying the building every alternate Sunday. Mr. Zeigler ministered to the Lutherans for six or seven years, after which a state of disorganization began to exist in both congregations, brought about by some independent preachers, among whom were Revs. Ritter, Claraluna



Isaac Sperry

and Ablee. About 1856 the Rev. Bierdemann reorganized the Lutheran Church, and served the congregation until his death, about 1869. In the spring of 1866 the Lutherans purchased the interest which the Reformed congregation had in the building, and the latter erected a house for themselves. Since Mr. Bierdemann's death the church has been in charge of the following ministers in the order given: Rev. J. G. Behm, Rev. Bruegel, Rev. W. F. Deiss, Rev. George Kittle, Rev. Powell Doepken, Rev. John Schmidt and Rev. Fickeisen. The church contains twenty-five families and a Sunday-school of fifty children. Since Mr. Fickeisen's removal the Rev. Henry Peters, of Saegertown, preaches occasionally to the Meadville congregation.

St. Paul's Reformed Church —The pioneer minister of this denomination in the valley of French Creek was Rev. Philip Zeiser, who as early as 1818 traveled through this region on foot—as in the early part of his labors he was too poor to own a horse—preaching at different points in Crawford County and forming churches at Meadville, Saegertown, Watson's Run and Dutch Hill. He ministered to the Meadville congregation off and on for nearly thirty years. The Germans of the Reformed and Lutheran faiths usually formed union congregations that were ministered to by preachers of both denominations. Such was the case in Meadville, their services being held in the court house. This state of things lasted until 1847, when a lot was purchased of James A. McFadden on Pine between South Main and Liberty Streets, and a frame building erected thereon at a total expense of $1,800, which was mutually borne by both the Reformed and Lutherans. The building was dedicated December 19, 1847, by Rev. Benjamin Boyer, of the Reformed Church, and Rev. Jacob Zeigler, a Lutheran preacher. Separate organizations were effected at that time, and an agreement made by which each congregation held Sunday services alternately. Mr. Boyer served from 1847 to 1850, and was succeeded by Rev. D. B. Ernst from 1850 to 1854. After Mr. Ernst left a number of independent preachers ministered to both congregations, among whom were Revs. Ritter, Claraluna and Ablee, and a general disorganization took place; but in 1859 Rev. L. D. Leberman, a regular Reformed minister, reorganized the Reformed Congregation, receiving the first year the insignificant salary of $53.75. Mr. Leberman served until the close of 1865, and was succeeded, April 1, 1866, by Rev. John W. Ebinghouse.

In the spring of 1866 the Reformed congregation sold their interest in the old church to the Lutherans, and during the year erected a brick building on the southwest corner of Park Avenue and Poplar Street. The church and ground cost $12,000, and the building, which has a seating capacity of 600, was dedicated in the spring of 1867. Soon after the dedication a portion of the congregation seceded, on account of their opposition to English sermons, since which time the services are prevailingly English, though an occasional sermon is preached in the German language. Mr. Ebinghouse was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. D. D. Leberman, in July, 1867, who has served the congregation continuously and acceptably for more than seventeen years. In the winter of 1879–80, a frame Sunday-school chapel was erected close to the church, at a total cost of $1,400. St. Paul's Reformed congregation embraces a membership of about 290, and a Sunday-school of about 140.

St. Agatha's Catholic Church (*German*).—The first Catholic to locate in Meadville was Lawrence Clancy, who came in 1799, and opened a blacksmith-shop on the Diamond, which he carried on until his death. In 1802 Patrick Farrelly, a young lawyer, settled in the village. He was an Irish Catholic, of fine education, and was soon recognized as one of the leading attorneys of

northwestern Pennsylvania. He represented the district in Congress from 1820 to 1826, dying at Pittsburgh in the latter year while on his way to Washington, D. C., being attended during his illness by Father McGuire, and interred in the Catholic cemetery of that town. Two other pioneer Catholics of Meadville were Daniel Le Fevre and John McNally, the former of whom was quite a prominent citizen. A few more might be mentioned who lived and died in the Catholic faith, but the absence of a Catholic priest to minister to the spiritual wants of their children left them without a practical knowledge of their religion, and thus in after years they united with other denominations or removed from the town. The absence of a Catholic church in Meadville deterred the members of that faith from settling here in larger numbers, and we therefore find that nearly all the first Catholics located in the northern and eastern portions of the county during the last decade of the eighteenth and the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

In 1845 Rev. M. A. De La Roque, pastor of St. Hyppolytus' Church, at Frenchtown, Crawford County, Penn., visited Meadville, where he found but two Catholic families, viz.: John and Patrick Riordan, and George and Conrad Fisher, who attended services at Frenchtown, of which Meadville was then a mission. Within a few years a number of others located in the borough, and steps were taken to effect an organization; which was accomplished by Rev. Nicholas Steinbacher, a Jesuit missionary, in February, 1849, under the name of St. Agatha's Church. Mass was celebrated at private houses until the completion of the frame building on the northwest corner of Pine and Liberty Streets. The corner-stone of that structure was laid by Father Steinbacher September 25, 1849, and the building was completed and dedicated to the worship of God August 10, 1850. This building was the cradle of both St. Agatha's and St. Bridget's Churches. Rev. Joseph Hartmann was the first regular pastor of the little congregation, serving from August, 1850, to February, 1851, when Rev. Peter Lechner became pastor. The latter was succeeded in April, 1851, by Rev. Father Schifferer; and in September, 1851, Rev. Anton Reck assumed the pastorate, and ministered to the church until the close of 1864. The pastors of St. Agatha's since that time have been as follows: Rev. Peter Kline, January, 1865, to October, 1866; Rev. Anton Reck, November, 1866, to October, 1868; Rev. Michael J. Decker, November, 1868, to November, 1871; Rev. George Meyer, November, 1871, to July, 1878; Rev. Melchior Appel, July, 1878, died April 24, 1883; Rev. Anton Reck, April, 1883, to October, 1883; Rev. Franz Winter, October, 1883, and is yet pastor of the church.

The congregation grew rapidly through the passing years, and in 1862 the English-speaking portion, who did not understand the German language, organized St. Bridget's Church. In a few years the old frame was too small to accommodate the increasing flock, and on the 8th of August, 1869, the corner-stone of the present imposing brick edifice on the northeast corner of South Main and Pine Streets, was laid by Rt. Rev. Tobias Mullen, assisted by the pastor, Father Decker, and other priests of the diocese. The building was completed under the pastorate of Father Meyer, at a total expense of about $60,000, and dedicated by Bishop Mullen October 19, 1873. It is one of the finest church edifices in Meadville, is handsomely frescoed throughout the interior, and has a seating capacity of over 1,000. St. Agatha's Church embraces 250 families, or about 1,250 souls, and has also a flourishing Sunday-school.

St. Agatha's Cemetery adjoins Greendale. The land was purchased by Father Reck in 1856. It contains only three acres and cost $375.

The parish school was established by Father Kline in 1865. He erected

a one-story frame building close to the church, and employed lay teachers to conduct the school, but the Sisters of St. Joseph were finally engaged as assistants. Upon the opening of the new church in October, 1873, the old frame building previously used was converted into a schoolhouse, and together with the old schoolhouse has served the purposes of the parish up to the present. From 1876 to 1884 three Sisters of St. Joseph had full control of the school, which now contains about 165 pupils. In the fall of 1884 Father Winter engaged a male teacher to take charge of the larger boys, while two Sisters looked after the other classes. Besides the usual branches taught in the public schools, the children are carefully instructed in the Divine precepts of religion, secular and religious education going hand in hand, thus preparing the pupils to uphold the moral, as well as the material affairs of life.

St. Bridget's Catholic Church.—All of the Catholics in this vicinity belonged to St. Agatha's Church until the spring of 1862, when St. Bridget's was organized. Some of the original members were John Riordan, Thomas McGuigan, James O'Connor, Walter Furlong, Richard Whalen and Thomas Breen, with their families. On the 13th of May, 1862, Thomas McGuigan and James O'Connor, on behalf of the congregation, rented the building then known as "Divinity Hall," which stood on the southeast corner of Center Street and Chancery Lane, where Mass was celebrated, and the Gospel preached in the English tongue. An influx of English-speaking Catholics, in 1862, swelled the numbers of the little congregation, and "Divinity Hall" was purchased for the sum of $750. It was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. J. M. Young, Bishop of Erie, and the congregation placed under the charge of Rev. M. A. De La Roque, of Frenchtown. It was principally attended by his assistant, Father Gilibarti, who finally, in 1863, was appointed the first resident pastor. In 1864 two Franciscan Fathers, Revs. James Titta and Samuel Fayella, of Allegany College, near Olean, N. Y., conceived the idea of founding a Catholic institution of learning at Meadville, and were given charge of St. Bridget's Church. Their enterprise did not succeed, however, and they removed from the town. During their pastorate they bought a large two-story brick house on North Main Street, for a pastoral residence, which with their other property was sold at the time of their removal.

In 1865 Father De La Roque again took charge of St. Bridget's, and was settled here as resident pastor. He is a native of the Province of Auvergne, France, born January, 14, 1821, where he was also educated, after which he came to America and was ordained at Pittsburgh by Bishop O'Connor, July 26, 1845. He was at once appointed pastor of St. Hyppolytus' Church, at Frenchtown, Crawford County, Penn., which he took charge of the following August. Thence came to Meadville in 1865, and in 1868 was appointed pastor of St. Joseph's Church at Warren, Penn., which position he still occupies. Early in 1866 Father De La Roque purchased the old Methodist church and parsonage on Arch Street, near the corner of Liberty, for the sum of $7,000. It was fitted up and dedicated the same year by Bishop Domenec, of Pittsburgh. The old property on Center Street was then utilized for school purposes, but was subsequently sold for the original purchase-money. Rev. James Perry was assistant in 1865, and Rev. James Haley a portion of 1866. The latter was succeeded by Rev. John L. Finucane, who became pastor in 1868. He was a native of Ireland and was a well-known lecturer, and an eminent pulpit orator. He served as pastor of St. Bridget's until June, 1871, and died in Brooklyn, N. Y., some four or five years afterward. Rev. John L. Madigan was the next pastor of the church, he too, being a native of Ireland, but ordained by Bishop Young, of Erie. During his pastorate the present school building was erected.

In March, 1874, Rev. James J. Dunn became pastor of St. Bridget's, and furnished and opened the school in the following September. In 1877 Father Dunn purchased the lot on the northwest corner of Arch and Liberty Streets for $1,500, and moved the old parsonage on to it. The time had now come when St. Bridget's needed a new church, and on Sunday, August 11, 1878, the corner-stone of the present beautiful brick edifice was laid by the Rt. Rev. Tobias Mullen, of Erie, in the presence of a large concourse of people who had gathered from every portion of the county to witness the impressive ceremonies. It was carried to completion and dedicated November 24, 1881, by Bishop Mullen, assisted by a large number of priests of the diocese and Bishop Gilmour of Cleveland, Ohio, who preached the dedicatory sermon. The church cost complete as it stands to-day about $15,000, and has a seating capacity of about 600. The frescoeing was done by Godfrey Frohe, of Buffalo, N. Y., and will compare favorably with the finer churches of metropolitan cities. Over the altar in the nave is a life-size painting of our Savior, and at His feet the invitation, "Come to Me, all you that are weary and heavy laden, I will refresh you." To His right, but at a lower angle, are similar paintings of St. Peter and St. James; and to His left St. Mary Magdalen and St. John, while the whole ceiling of the church is covered with allegorical scenes representing in historical order the different types of the great sacrifice of the new law from the beginning of the world until the foundation of Christianity.

Father Dunn, to whose indefatigable labors is due the rearing of this handsome structure dedicated to the service of God, is a native of Malahide, Dublin County, Ireland, born June 10, 1841. He came to Baltimore, Md., in 1849, where he resided until August 24, 1857, when he entered Mount St. Mary's College, Emmettsburg, Md., and graduated in June, 1863, receiving the degrees of A. B. and A. M. In September of the same year he entered the Theological Seminary attached to the college in order to prepare for the priesthood, meanwhile teaching Latin and Greek in the college, and was ordained October 26, 1866. Father Dunn remained in the college as Professor of Latin and Greek until September, 1867, when he went to Oil City, Penn., as assistant priest in St. Joseph's Church. In June, 1868, he was appointed resident pastor of the church at Petroleum Center, and there remained until his removal to Meadville, where he still officiates as pastor of St. Bridget's Church, which now embraces 135 families or about 800 souls, and a flourishing Sunday-school of nearly 200 children.

The land for St. Bridget's Cemetery was purchased by Father De La Roque in 1866, at a cost of $500. It is located a short distance south of Meadville, and is a handsome little ground of five acres consecrated and used as a place of interment for the faithful.

The parish school had its inception in 1866, being opened in the old church building on Centre Street, and taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph for three or four years. Father Madigan erected the present two-story frame schoolhouse in the rear of St. Bridget's Church in 1873, but it was furnished and opened by Father Dunn, in September, 1874. The teachers up to 1880 were Herman Senker, Rev. Edward Kelly, Nicholas Justice, and Miss B. E. O'Keefe. The last mentioned, however, has been assistant teacher from 1874 up to the present, and since 1880 two Sisters of St. Joseph have had charge of the school. The attendance averages 130 pupils, and beside the usual branches taught in the public schools, the course of instruction embraces a thorough religious training of obedience to the commandments of God and the precepts of the church.

The Meadville Hebrew Society was organized in 1866 and hold their services in the Shryock Block, on Water Street. The Society has had several

ministers and teachers, the Rev. Victor Caro being the most prominent. Though there are now only about ten members in the Society it used to contain as high as thirty, the membership having been reduced by removals. The Society own a small cemetery northwest of Greendale, and its present officers are: M. Ohlman, President; S. Heilbroner, Vice-President; N. Mandel, Treasurer; M. H. Reefer, Secretary; N. Stein, Financial Secretary.

The First Evangelical Protestant Church was organized in 1867, by about fifty of the congregation of St. Paul's Reformed Church, who seceded from the latter because of the preference shown for the English language in the services. The seceders wanted the services conducted in German, and for that purpose established the present church, and in 1868 erected a frame building on the northwest corner of South Main and Poplar Streets at a total expense of about $4,500. In the spring of 1869 the church was incorporated as the "Independent German Reformed Congregation," but changed to its present title under the pastorate of the Rev. G. F. Kauffmann. The first pastor was the Rev. Robert Koehler, who acceptably filled the position until his death, January 29, 1870. Rev. G. F. Kauffmann was the next pastor and he was succeeded by Rev. A. Gillis. The present incumbent, Rev. Jacob Blass, was the successor of Mr. Gillis. The membership is about fifty, and the Sunday-school has an average attendance of about 100 children.

Park Avenue Congregational Church was organized on May 18, 1881, by the withdrawal of the majority of the congregation and 132 of the members of the First Presbyterian Church of Meadville, "who for conscience sake felt it to be their duty to renounce the Presbyterian form of church government." The church was recognized by an ecclesiastical council composed of Congregational ministers from Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio, which met October 12, 1881, when the Rev. James G. Carnachan, LL. D., who for twelve years had been pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, was installed as pastor of the new organization. Until February, 1884, the congregation worshiped in Library Hall, when having purchased the lot on the corner of Chestnut Street and Park Avenue, it entered upon the occupancy of its chapel, which was built at a cost of over $6,000 and which was dedicated free of debt on February 3, 1884. The erection of the main audience room will be proceeded with as soon as the lease, which holds the building at present on the church lot, shall have expired. The chapel is conceded to be one of the most elegant edifices of its kind in this section of the State. Infant class and Bible class rooms are lighted by ten large and six smaller windows filled with rolled cathedral glass, the colors of which are admirably harmonized, and which were contributed by the children of the Sunday-school. The wainscoting is of oak, in Eastlake design, and the ceiling is of white pine also in Eastlake design. The beams, trusses and corbels are stained cherry. The acoustic properties of the room are perfect and the whole evidences great taste on the part of the architect, Mr. Valk, of New York City. An audience of over 300 can be comfortably seated, when the folding doors between the chapel and the infant class room are thrown open. A kitchen in the basement is fitted up with all necessary equipments. Park Avenue Church since its organization has enjoyed remarkable prosperity. Its membership is now (July, 1884,) close upon 200. It has a Sabbath-school of 240 members, of which Lewis Walker, Esq., is the efficient Superintendent. Its Deacons are: Dr. D. M. Calvin, Edward A. Reynolds, Robert G. Graham and James C. Willson. Messrs. William Reynolds, G. W. Adams, James J. Shryock, A. S. Davis, H. H. Loveridge, William Roddick, James C. Wilson, A. M. Fuller and H. H. Thompson constitute its Board of Trustees, and Mr. James G. Foster is Church Treasurer.

CHAPTER III.

SCHOOLS OF MEADVILLE—THE OLD BLOCK-HOUSE REMODELED BY DAVID MEAD FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES—FIRST SCHOOL OPENED IN THE TOWN—NIGHT SCHOOL—MEADVILLE ACADEMY FOUNDED BY THE LEGISLATURE—ORIGINAL SUBSCRIBERS TO THE FUND FOR ITS ESTABLISHMENT—THE ACADEMY OPENED UNDER REV. JOSEPH STOCKTON—ITS EARLY TEACHERS AND FUTURE PROGRESS—FREE SCHOOLS—GROWTH OF EDUCATION IN MEADVILLE AND PRESENT CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS—ALLEGHENY COLLEGE—HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTION FROM ITS INCEPTION TO THE PRESENT TIME—MEADVILLE THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL—MEADVILLE BUSINESS COLLEGE.

THE want of schools was to the first settlers a severe privation, especially to parents who themselves had in youth the advantages of an education, and to whom the thought of their children growing up in ignorance was insupportable. But schools could not be established until settlements were formed, that could within a radius of three or four miles supply scholars adequate to their support. The majority of the pioneers were single men or recently married, and it was not until the lapse of eight or ten years after the first settlement was effected around the site of Meadville that a school could be sustained. Quite too large a portion of the first generation necessarily grew up without schooling; but with many the thirst for knowledge overcame the privations with which they had to contend in those early years, and by walking long distances, they managed to obtain the rudiments of an English education. In the autumn of 1794 a block-house was erected on the northeast corner of Water Street and Steer's Alley, and early in the following year David Mead concluded to utilize it for school purposes. He accordingly entered into an agreement with James Gibson, June 23, 1795, by which the latter bound himself to make certain repairs on "a house commonly known by the name of the Block-house, in the town of Meadville, given by the said David Mead with a view of being made use of for the promotion of the education of youth in and near the said town." Mr. Gibson agreed to accept in payment for his labor Lots Nos. 70 and 71, in the town of Meadville at $40 per lot. These lots, upon which then stood a small log cabin, are now the site of the market-house.

The late John Reynolds, Esq., in his "Reminiscences of the Olden Time," says, that a school was first taught in the upper story of this block-house by a Mr. Kelly, an Irishman, in the winter of 1798–99, so that thee or four years passed by ere the building was ready for use. After being utilized several years as a schoolhouse, the block-house was occupied as a carpenter shop, blacksmith shop and private residence in varied succession until 1828, when it was removed. The triangular lot on which it stood had been donated by Mr. Mead, before his death, to the village of Meadville, for a common school site, and by deed vested in Trustees; but it was afterward transferred under a special act of the Legislature, to the Meadville Female Seminary, with power to sell, and subsequently purchased by Thomas Wilson, whose widow still resides on the property. In October, 1805, the following notice appeared in the Crawford *Weekly Messenger:*

The Trustees and subscribers of the town school in Meadville are requested to meet at the schoolhouse on Saturday, the 2d of November. As the interests of that institution are immediately involved, it is hoped a punctual attendance will be given. The present

teacher flatters himself with the hope of having rendered general satisfaction, and wishes that nothing may be wanting to enable each individual concerned to reap the full benefit which in such case may reasonably be expected. A night school will be opened in the above school-room, if sufficient encouragement be given, on the first evening in November. A subscription paper will be left at the printing office.

JAMES DOUGLAS.

This then was the beginning of education in Meadville; but through the passing years the school interests of the town have kept pace with her growth in wealth and population, until to-day the schools of Meadville are second to none in western Pennsylvania.

Meadville Academy.—The first step toward the establishment of the Meadville Academy, was taken by the Legislature in the act of March 12, 1800, erecting Crawford County, wherein Meadville was designated as the seat of justice, on the following condition:

Provided, The inhabitants or proprietors of Meadville and its vicinity, subscribe and secure the payment of $4,000 to the Trustees of the county, either in specie or land, at a reasonable valuation, within four months of the passing of this act, for the use of a Seminary of Learning within said county; and in case of neglect or refusal, the Trustees shall, and they are hereby authorized to fix on the seat of justice at any place within four miles of Meadville.

For the purpose of securing the county-seat at Meadville in compliance with this proviso, the following subscription paper was circulated among its citizens and those residing in the immediate vicinity of the town.

WHEREAS, The Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have passed a law to establish the seat of justice of the County of Crawford at Meadville, on the condition that the sum of $4,000 is subscribed and secured within four months after passing the said law, we and each of us respectively do hereby promise to pay David Mead, Frederick Haymaker and James Gibson, Trustees for the county aforesaid, for the use and purposes in the said act expressed, such sum of money as is annexed to our respective names at the time and in the manner following, viz.: One-third part on the 1st of June, 1803; one-third part on the 1st of June, 1804, and the remaining third part on the 1st of June, 1805, with interest annually from the 1st of June, 1800, and security if demanded by the said Trustees; and if the subscriptions exceed the sum required, the excess shall be appropriated for the support of the academy to be established under the said law.

As witness our hands in the year 1800, the day being prefixed to our signatures:

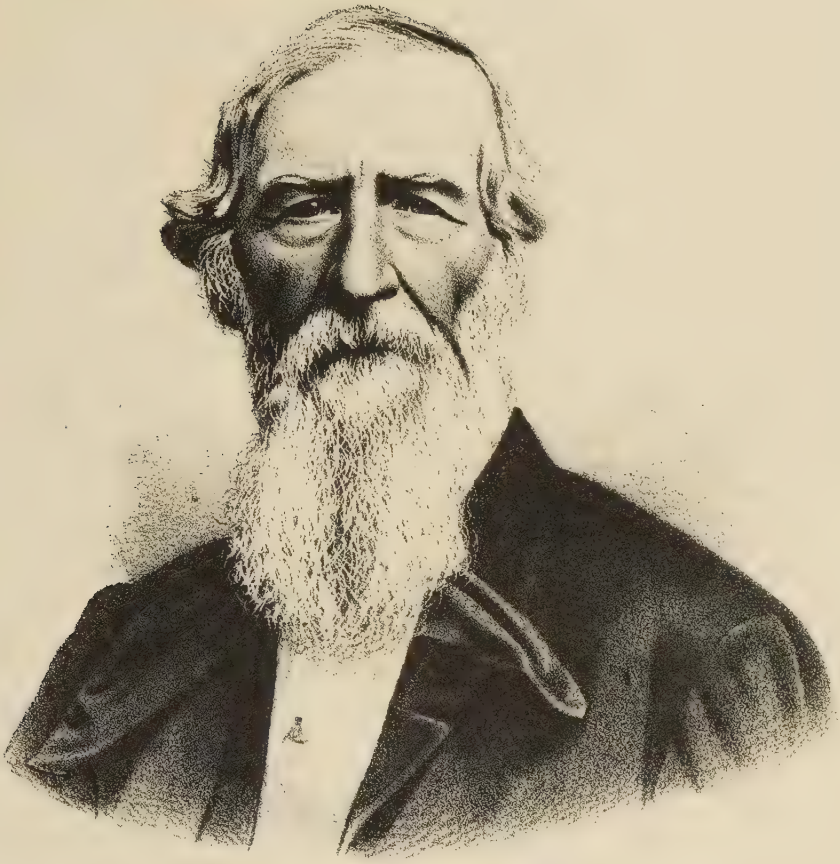
April 21, David Mead	$500
April 21, Roger Alden	750
April 21, Thomas R. Kennedy	500
April 21, John Wilkins	500
April 21, Cornelius Van Horne	200
April 21, Robert Fitz Randolph	150
April 21, James Fitz Randolph	75
April 21, James Gibson	75
April 21, Joseph Hackney	75
April 21, Henry Licher	120
April 21, William B. Foster	100
April 21, James Hamilton	75
April 21, Edward Work	50
April 21, John Davis	150
April 21, George McGunnegle	20
April 21, Patrick Davis	150
April 21, John McGunnegle	150
April 21, James Moore	60
April 21. John Patterson	30
April 21, William Herriott	50
April 21, James Knox	50
April 21, Richard Patch	15
April 21, William McGrady	60
April 21, William Dick	100
April 21, John Garber	50
April 21, Henry Baldwin	50
April 21, James McDill	20
April 21, William Hope	20

April 22, William Moore	$ 60
April 22, Chambers Foster	30
April 22, William Cook	30
April 22, Squire Chamberlain	60
April 22, William Gill	10
April 22, William Davis	50
April 22, Archibald Davison	50
April 22, Frederick Haymaker	75
April 22, David Compton	40
April 22, Henry Reichard	75
April 22, Samuel Lord	100
Total	$4,580

This subscription is convincing evidence of the enterprise and public spirit of the men whose names appear in the list, most of whom are well remembered pioneers of Meadville and vicinity; and when it is borne in mind that the population of the town was at that time not more than 200 or 300, the liberality of the subscription is more marked. Its proceeds formed the fund by which the academy was established—an institution that contributed so largely to the educational interests of the county for over half a century. By an act of the Legislature passed on the 2d of April, 1802, the number of Trustees was increased, and more ample powers for acquiring property and establishing a school were conferred; and by the act of April 4, 1805, their number, powers and duties were still further enlarged. The academy was finally opened in the spring of 1805, a room in the frame dwelling of Rev. Joseph Stockton being utilized for the purpose. This building stood on Liberty Street, and is now the remodeled residence of Clinton Cullum, Esq. In the meantime a lot had been acquired immediately north of Mr. Stockton's, on the southwest corner of Chestnut and Liberty Streets, and during the summer of 1805, a one-story brick building with two rooms was erected thereon. In the *Messenger* of August 7, 1805, we find the following notice of the completion of this building:

"The Trustees of the Meadville Academy inform the public with pleasure that they have completed their building, and are now opening a public school under the care and direction of the Rev. Joseph Stockton, in which will be taught, with the greatest care and attention, the English language, grammatically, together with writing and arithmetic, also the Latin and Greek languages, the different branches of mathematics, and those parts of natural and moral science which are usually taught in such institutions. For the encouragement of parents and guardians, who may be desirous to give their children an academic education, the price of tuition will be reduced to 25 shillings the quarter, more then one-third less than is usual throughout the State."

Mr. Stockton was a man of varied accomplishments, and purposed maintaining a school of a high grade, but in that early day there was greater need of primary than secondary or higher institutions. The academy soon became overcrowded with pupils of all grades, those who had contributed toward the subscription fund claiming the right to send their children of every degree of advancement. Some who had thus contributed were unable to gain admission on account of its crowded state, and, after the exhibition of some temper, withdrew and established a school for themselves. By the act of the 31st of March, 1807, Meadville Academy was formally incorporated, and fifteen Trustees were constituted a quorum. A year later, 28th of March, 1808, the number constituting a quorum was reduced to eleven, and the act of incorporation was revived, from which, we may infer, it had been suffered to lapse. The general law of the State, enacted in 1809, provided for the education of the poor gratis. Under this law the academy was re-chartered March 20, 1811,



John M Barnes

and $1,000 appropriated on condition that five indigent pupils should be taught therein.

During the period from 1809 to the firm establishment of the free-school system in 1834 the academy furnished a considerable proportion of the instruction in grammar-school and higher studies. The building on the corner of Liberty and Chestnut Streets continued to be used until the spring of 1826, during which time it was taught by Messrs. Stockton, Cary, Kerr, Douglas, Reynolds, France and others. The property was then sold, a lot secured on the northeast corner of Market and Walnut Streets, and a two-story brick building with four rooms erected thereon. The academy was opened in this building November 9, 1826, under the charge of Henry Pettibone and John Adams. For the succeeding quarter of a century some portion of the building was used for primary English instruction, and for a part of the time this was the only grade kept up, though a teacher of the ancient languages gave instruction periodically for such compensation as he could command. Trustees were regularly elected, but they did little more than keep up their organization and take charge of a small invested fund. Among the earlier teachers who taught in the building on Market Street were: Henry Pettibone, John Adams, John Nichols, John Reynolds, David Derickson, Abner Jackson, David McKinney, Samuel Leffingwell, and Messrs. Pike, Rodgers and Donnelly, the last mentioned gentlemen for a period of seventeen years. The Misses Benedict were also employed for a time as teachers in the academy.

In Dr. Burrowes' report of February 18, 1837, the academy is set down as having a building worth $4,000, and invested funds to the amount of $1,781. Under the head of donations there are reported as having been given by the State $1,000 to the academy and $1,000 to the Meadville Female Seminary. Under remarks on the academy we find the following: "The course of instruction not specified. The improvements are a brick building, 24x48, two stories high, valued as above. The pecuniary affairs are managed by six Trustees. Prospects not good." In the following year no report whatever was made, from which we may infer that the academy was at a low ebb.

In 1852 the academy building was repaired, a tower, providing for a stairway outside of the main building, was made, and a well organized school of a high grade was established, under the principalship of Messrs. T. F. Thickstun and S. P. Bates. In the course of the following year modern furniture was adopted, which had never been provided, other than long benches and corresponding desks. A library of 600 well selected volumes was procured, several hundred dollars' worth of the most approved philosophical apparatus was purchased of the Wightmans, of Boston, and improvements of the grounds made. By reference to the annual catalogue we find that the number of instructors employed were eight; number of students in the classical course, 38; English course, 289; annual aggregate, 522; males, 168; females, 128; average age, eighteen years; proportion of pupils outside the city of Meadville, three-fourths. In the following year the number of males were 184; females, 198; total, 382; annual aggregate, 668; increase over preceding year, 28 per cent; number in teachers' course, 217. In 1857 the institution passed under the entire control of Mr. Thickstun, his associate having been elected County Superintendent of Schools, and in the following year he was succeeded in the principalship by Prof. A. D. Cotton, assisted by Prof. J. W. Witherspoon. In the year 1861 the academy, as an incorporated institution, ceased to exist, the building and grounds with invested funds having been transferred to the Board of Control of the Public Schools, in pursuance of provisions by law, and a public high school was established, with Prof. Cotton as principal.

Free Schools.—In 1834 the common school system, free alike to rich and poor, was firmly established; and in 1837 Meadville was visited by Dr. Burrowes, who was then Secretary of State, and ex-officio Superintendent of Common Schools. He met the citizens in a public meeting, and delivered an address upon the interest of common school education. In his report for that year, read in the House of Representatives on the 19th of February, 1838. Meadville is reported as having seven common schools, kept open seven and a half months in the year; as employing two male and five female teachers; as paying $24.16 for males per month, and $14.50 for females; as having 118 male pupils and 113 females—a total of 231; as raising by tax $417.57; as receiving from State appropriation, $583.66. The number of houses yet needed was put down at eight, from which we may infer that those which the town possessed were of so poor a quality as to be considered worthless. Up to the time of the passage of the free school law in 1834, the children of school-going age had been taught in private schools, or in the family, and doubtless the instruction was quite limited, except to the few who could be sent from home or have private tutors.

Little attention was given to grading of schools, or even to testing properly the qualifications of teacher, during the twenty years succeeding the adoption of the free school system. There were, in truth, many good teachers, and pupils made much progress; but there were likewise many very poor schools. The buildings were poor and the appliances meager. With the passage of the school law of 1854, providing among other improvements for a County Superintendent, there dawned a new era in free school instruction. A substantial brick building was erected in the Second District in 1858, and a well-graded school was established under the principalship of Mr. Lauren C. Beach. The partial grading of schools had, however, been commenced in 1854, but for lack of sufficient and suitable buildings it was very imperfect. In the First District a frame building with two rooms was subsequently erected on North Street, which is yet utilized; while the building erected in 1858, in the Second District, is now used as a planing-mill by the Cutter Bros. The frame building in the First District soon proved inadequate, and as in pioneer days, when a building was no longer needed for martial uses, it was taken for school purposes, so now the State having no longer need of the Arsenal, it was transferred to the city for educational purposes, and where the rumble and clatter of artillery and caisson carriages had resounded, was now heard the word of instruction and the responsive voice of the pupil—the bullet yielding to the book. The entire property where now stands the First District building was donated to the city by the State through the influence of the late Darwin A. Finney, who was then a State Senator and secured the passage of the act of donation.

On the 1st of May, 1861, all the schools of the city of Meadville were organized under one management, the two district organizations uniting in one Board of Control, and it was decided by the new body in September following, to grade the schools of both districts upon the same basis, which previously had been unequal and diverse, and to establish a union high school. The law authorizing this consolidation had been just previously passed; and it was in compliance with the provisions of this law that the Meadville Academy property was transferred to the city, and became the high school.

In 1868 a school building of brick, three stories in height, with capacious halls and stairways, capable of accommodating 700 pupils, and located in the midst of most beautiful grounds, four acres in extent, and well planted with trees, shrubbery and flowers, was erected in the Second District. It was dedicated December 23 of that year as the "Huidekoper Grammar School," in

honor of Alfred Huidekoper, Esq., who at an expense of $5,000 donated most of the ground upon which it stands; while an endowment fund of $1,000, since increased by interest to $1,500, was given to the school by the heirs of H. J. Huidekoper, Esq., the interest alone of which can be used for the purchase of reference books. In 1869 the First District school building was erected, likewise of brick, two stories in height, but covering more ground, with capacity for a like number of pupils, and placed upon the lot donated by the State. The Hon. George B. Delamater donated to this school an endowment fund of $1,500, for the same purpose and on similar conditions as the Huidekoper fund. In 1879 an addition of ten rooms was made to the Second District building; and during the same year a two-story frame building, with two rooms, was erected on Park Avenue in the First District.

A separate Superintendent for the city was elected in 1867, who, at first, taught a portion of his time in the high school, but subsequently devoted all his energies to the duties of his office. Prof. George W. Haskins was the first Superintendent, who, from his organizing mind and thorough scholarship, was able to bring form out of the chaos into which the schools had drifted. He was succeeded, in 1869, by Mr. W. C. J. Hall, who, from his military education, was able to bring many improvements into the order and method of the schools, and especially in handling, quickly and quietly, a regiment of young Americans, numbering daily nearly 600, as was found gathered in each district. He was succeeded, in 1872, by his predecessor, Prof. Haskins, and he, in turn, by Prof. Samuel P. Bates, on the 1st of January, 1875. Under Prof. Bates, who served nearly six years and a half, the schools of Meadville attained a high degree of excellence. Prof. H. R. Roth succeeded Prof. Bates in June, 1881, and after serving with much satisfaction throughout the term of three years, was re-elected in 1884, at an advanced salary. Prof. Roth is recognized as a progressive educator of wide experience, and the schools under his charge will compare favorably with those in any other city of the State.

Too much cannot be said in commendation of the wise forethought which has characterized the action of the successive boards of education. The gratifying results of their large-hearted estimate of the grave interests committed to their care, meet us at every turn. The well-chosen site, the attractive and commodious edifice, the ample and neatly enclosed grounds, are only the fair complement of unstinted provision made for the education of the rising generation.

That a comparative view of free school instruction in Meadville for a half century may be seen at a glance, there is given below, at different periods, the main statistical items, drawn from the State reports. The first entry is taken from Dr. Burrowes' report for 1837, when the operations of the schools, under the new law, had but just commenced. From that time forward, until 1855, no itemized statistical reports seem to have been published; but since the latter year they have been regularly inserted in the State volume:

YEAR.	Number of Schools	Number of months schools open.	Number of male teachers.	Number of female teachers.	Salaries of males per month.	Salaries of females per month.	Whole number of pupils.	Amount of direct tax.	Received from State Appropriation.
1837	7	7½	2	5	$24 16	$14 50	231	$417 57	$583 66
1855	8	4	2	8	35 75	16 00	615	1,444 41	179 90
1865	11	8½	3	8	71 66	33 33	892	4,988 00	391 40
1875	21	9	.....	21	.....	50 78	1,278	24,441 38	1,786 31
1877	28	9	.....	28	.....	45 00	1,506	22,875 42	2,406 56
1880	32	9	.....	32	.....	43 91	1,746	23,611 77	2,491 38
1884	37	9	.....	37	.....	47 08	1,790	25,748 00	2,358 31

Allegheny College.—In the spring of 1815 Rev. Timothy Alden removed with his family from the city of New York to Meadville, Penn., arriving at his destination April 24, of that year. A short time after his arrival, in company with the Rev. Robert Johnston, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of the village, he called upon John Reynolds, Esq., to whom he explained his principal motive in coming to the West, viz.: to select a suitable location for a college. He said he was led to Meadville on account of it being the home of Maj. Roger Alden, a distant relative, as well as of its geographical position in northwestern Pennsylvania, and that he was satisfied Meadville was the most suitable location in this region for such an institution as he desired to found. It was therefore agreed to call a meeting of citizens at the court house, and lay before them the whole subject. Accordingly, on Tuesday evening, June 20, 1815, a goodly number of the leading citizens of Meadville assembled at the old log court house, when Maj. Alden was called to the chair, and John Reynolds, Esq., appointed Secretary of the meeting. A preamble approving the object of the meeting, also a number of resolutions relating thereto, were proposed and unanimously adopted, of which the following abstract will furnish a general idea of the contemplated institution:

"From the circumstance that a great part of the region for the benefit of which the seminary is designed is watered by the numerous streams which in the aggregate makes the Allegheny River, it was resolved that the institution be called Allegheny College. It was also resolved that it be located at Meadville; that the institution, in due time, consist of a President, Vice-President, Professors and tutors; that the Rev. Timothy Alden, late of the city of New York, be the President of the college, and Professor of Oriental Languages and of Ecclesiastical History; that the Rev. Robert Johnston be the Vice-President of the college and Professor of Logic, Metaphysics, and Ethics; that the President and Vice-President be the sole instructors for the present in all departments of literature and science; that they admit as probationers such as are designed to receive a classical education at this college, and instruct them according to their discretion; that from the probationers who may be duly graduated, the freshman class shall be admitted as alumi of the college, on the 4th of July, 1816; that the public academies now in existence, or hereafter to be established in the counties of Crawford, Erie, Warren, Venango, Mercer and Butler, comprising the Northwestern Judicial District of Pennsylvania, may be so far connected with Allegheny College as to receive and prepare probationers for matriculation in this seminary; and in this case, that the principal instructor, being a man of competent classical education and of good

moral character, be considered one of the Faculty, and be added to the list of tutors of the college; that a committee appointed for the purpose, prepare an address to the Legislature requesting a charter; that another committee, which was also appointed, draft a code of laws for the government of the college; that a subscription book be immediately opened by the Treasurer of the college, John Reynolds, Esq., for donations in any kind of property which may be useful to the institution; that the Rev. Mr. Alden, President of the college, who, it is understood, is shortly to visit the Eastern and Middle States, be requested to solicit benefactions in aid of the objects of this new institution."

The resolves of the members of this little assembly, on that June evening of 1815, were conceived in a spirit of noble philanthropy, and, doubtless, as they blew out the lights, and wended their way through the quiet streets of the little hamlet among the hills, they viewed their evening's work with complacency, and felt assured that a college was to be; but just how, was not so apparent. There was one, however, in that company to whom toil, and privation, and patient waiting, was a real joy, and that was President Alden.

He soon started on his mission, and, judging by the long list of donations, varying from 20 cents up to $5, $10, and even $100—little money, mostly books—and ranging through the principal towns of the North and East, we may infer that he religiously carried out his instructions to present his case to the people of the United States. The first name on his paper is that of John Adams, ex-President of the United States, who subscribed $20 in books. Then follow the solid men of Boston, sixty-six in number: the Frothinghams, the Channings, the Davises, the Lorings, the Lowells, the Ticknors, the Greenleafs, the Parkmans and the Thayers. One, D. D. Rogers, Esq., of Massachusetts, gave 500 acres of wild land on the Little Kanawha River, estimated at $2,000. Then follow the men of Cambridge, Charlestown, Dorchester, Marblehead, Medford, Plymouth, Salem (where the learned Dr. Worcester resided, and was one of the contributors), Sandwich, Worcester (where Dr. Aaron Bancroft subscribed), Yarmouth, Bristol (Rhode Island), Pawtucket (where Dr. Benedict, the historian of the Baptists, gave $5) Providence (where Brown and Ives, the patrons of Brown University, gave him $50 in money), Albany (New York), Brooklyn, Hudson, Newburg, New York City (with its twenty-nine subscribers, among whom was Dr. Harris, President of Columbia College), Schenectady (where he obtained a subscription from Dr. Nott, President of Union College), Troy, Burlington, Newark, New Brunswick, Harrisburg (Pennsylvania), Lancaster, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. The net results of the mission were: Land, $2,000; books, $1,642.30; cash, $461. Total, $4,103.30. A rather small amount of cash with which to found a college; but the real result of this tour is not represented by these figures, for he paved the way for bequests that were princely. In a letter to the Trustees of the college bearing date March 2, 1816, Mr. Alden says:

> In fulfilling the duties you assigned me on my late mission, I have collected among the friends of our institution the sum of $461, and books for the library to the amount of about $1,600. I have also collected sundry valuable articles for the cabinet and museum. One gentleman in Massachusetts (D. D. Rogers, Esq.), has promised to convey to us 500 acres of land on the Little Kanawha. Many have given flattering encouragement of further important aid whenever we shall have obtained our charter, which we have reason to expect during the present session of our Legislature. The whole of our actual subscriptions may now be estimated at something more than $9,000.

During the absence of Mr. Alden on his mission to the East, the Treasurer's books were opened in Meadville, and the following subscriptions obtained:

Maj. Roger Alden, Hon. John B. Wallace and Hon. William Griffith each $500; Samuel Lord and Daniel LeFevre, 225 acres of land valued at $450; Dr. Daniel Bemus, H. J. Huidekoper, Daniel LeFevre, Gen. David Mead, Hon. Jesse Moore, John Reynolds and Jared Shattuck each $300; Hon. Patrick Farrelly, Samuel B. Magaw, Col. Ralph Marlin and James White, each $200; Samuel Torbett, $150; Rev. Timothy Alden, $120 (in books); Joseph T. Cummings & Co., $110; Thomas Atkinson and Henry Hurst, each $100; Eliphalet Bett, $75; James Foster, $60; Daniel Perkins, $55; Moses Allen, James Hamilton, Rev. Robert Johnston, Alexander McDowell, Joseph Morrison, Alexander Power and William W. White, each $50; John Cotton, $40; Lewis Neill, $35; David Compton, $30; John Johnston and Noah Wade, each $20; Hugh Cotton and Hugh Cotton, Jr., each $10; total, $5,685, which added to the amount of $4,103.30 collected by President Alden, made a grand total of $9,788.30. When we consider that Crawford County was then but sparsely settled, and its people not yet recovered from the war of 1812, we must confess that this subscription exhibits a spirit of generous enterprise and rare liberality.

The securing of a charter was vigoriously pushed, but it encountered delay, and did not become a law until March 24, 1817. The act of incorporation ordains the establishment of an institution for the education of youth in the learned, ancient and modern languages, in the liberal arts and sciences, and in all useful literature; with power to "confer on the pupils of said institution, such reward, diplomas, and degrees in the different liberal arts and sciences, as the Faculty and Trustees shall think them entitled to; and to confer honorary degrees according to the general usages and customs of other colleges." The same act appropriated to the college the sum of $2,000, and a further sum of $5,000 was subsequently granted by the State. The charter members of the Board of Trustees were selected from the counties of Crawford, Erie, Venango, Mercer, Butler, Beaver, Allegheny, Westmoreland and Dauphin, and the city of Philadelphia, besides others from Ohio, New Jersey and Massachusetts. Those residing in Crawford County were: Roger Alden, William McArthur, Jesse Moore, John Brooks, William Clark, Henry Hurst, Samuel Lord, Samuel Torbett, Ralph Marlin, Patrick Farrelly, Thomas Atkinson, John Reynolds, Daniel Bemus, William Foster Daniel Perkins, Rev. Amos Chase, Rev. Timothy Alden and Rev. Robert Johnston.

On the 4th of July, 1817, the charter was formally accepted, and under its provisions a complete organization was effected. On the 28th of July, amid much ceremony was held the first annual commencement of the embryo institution, at which time the Rev. Timothy Alden was inaugurated President of the faculty and Professor of the Oriental Languages, Ecclesiastical History and Theology, of Allegheny College. The inaugural ceremonies took place in the old log court house. It will astonish many of the scholars of to-day, to read the programme of exercises on this occasion: "1. An address in Latin, to the President and Professor, announcing his appointment to these offices, by Patrick Farrelly, Esq. 2. A reply in Latin, by Mr. Alden, declaring his acceptance of these offices. 3. A prayer in Latin, by Mr. Alden. 4. Sacred music, by a choir of singers, under the direction of Col. Robert Stockton and Mr. John Bowman. 5. Inaugural oration in Latin, by Mr. Alden. 6. A Hebrew oration, an English oration, a Latin dialogue, an English dialogue, and an English oration, by the probationers of Allegheny College. 7. Sacred music. 8. An address in English, in reference to the occasion, by Mr. Alden." It is not surprising that Sherman Day in his "Historical Collections" should make the following comment regarding this programme: "Mr.

Alden was inaugurated amid an astonishing display of the dead languages." It should be observed that the lower story of the court house was the county jail, and, therefore, the prisoners must have got the benefit of this intellectual treat. Dr. Alden was exceptionally fond of the ancient languages, and in presenting so strong an array of such learning, in this public way, he meant to convince people that his college was to be no two-penny affair, but that the highest order of scholarship was to form the sub-stratum, and that he was abundantly able to impart it, and form his scholars upon his mold. There are few cases on record illustrating such abounding faith and resolution in the face of unbounded difficulties and discouragements.

The college opened in the court house, which it occupied for a brief period; then removed to a frame building near the southeast corner of Walnut Street and the Diamond; and thence to a frame building on Pine Street between Liberty and Grove, now the residence of Robert McMullen. Early in 1818 President Alden issued the following circular in reference to Allegheny College:

> This institution having been duly organized and the subscriber having been appointed President and a Professor of the same, takes this method to inform the public of the terms on which students desirous of a liberal education and disposed to become members of it, can be accomodated: First, tuition $6 a quarter; second, boarding $1.50 a week; or third, boarding, washing, lodging and tuition at $130 a year, payable quarterly and no extra charge during the vacations, if any should find it for their convenience to spend them in Meadville. Probationers are here instructed in Latin, Greek, etc., preparatory to admission into the collegiate classes. The freshman class is at present attending to Sallust, Horace, Xenophon's Anabasis, Homer's Iliad, the Hebrew, French and English languages, arithmetic, Holmes' Rhetoric, etc. TIMOTHY ALDEN.

In due time the first indispensible want of such an institution, viz., a building, was commenced. Five acres of ground were donated by Samuel Lord and the present beautiful site in the northern suburbs of the city was selected for the rising institution by a committee, composed of Hon. Patrick Farrelly, Dr. Daniel Bemus, Judge John Brooks and Col. Ralph Marlin. On Wednesday, July 5, 1820, the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of Bentley Hall (so named in honor of Rev. William Bentley, D. D., LL. D.,) the first public building of Allegheny College, took place in the presence of a large assemblage of people from this and adjoining counties, while many leading citizens from a distance were present to witness the ceremonies. Few are now living who took part in that event. Even the names of many of those prominent in the duties of that day are, to the larger portion of the present residents of Crawford County, unknown; but the monument of their philanthropy remains for the blessing of future generations.

The procession formed on the Diamond early in the afternoon, the several divisions being received by the committee of arrangements, consisting of Rev. Timothy Alden, Hon. Patrick Farrelly, Col. Ralph Marlin and Dr. Daniel Bemus, and were then committed to the Marshals of the day: Col. Ralph Marlin, Col. Richard Bean, George Selden, Esq., and Capt. Jacob Hull. The procession moved west on Chestnut to Water Street; thence north on Water, past the residence of Samuel Lord, Esq. (site of Hon. William Reynolds' grounds), and through his fields to the elevated plot of ground given by Mr. Lord for the site of Allegheny College, the deed for which he presented to the President and Board of Trustees on arriving at the corner stone, and ere the ceremony of laying the stone commenced. Rev. Timothy Alden was selected to perform the ceremony, and after being appointed W. M. *pro tempore* of Western Star Lodge, F. & A. M., under whose auspices the stone was laid, he gave the history of several articles which were to be deposited in the stone. These

consisted of a silver plate 4x6 inches in size, handsomely wrought and engraved by Capt. Jacob Hull, and presented by him for the purpose; a bottle containing foreign and domestic coins; a concise history of Allegheny College; sundry small rolls of parchment, exhibiting lists of the names of the benefactors and officers of the college, and of the members and officers of the Western Star Lodge and Chapter; several newspapers giving notices of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees; a piece of Plymouth Rock; a piece of marble broken from a pillar which tradition states to have belonged to Queen Dido's temple in ancient Carthage; a specimen of plaster from the tomb of Virgil, presented by J. H. Steele, M. D., of the United States Navy; and specimens of the reeds laid 3,000 years ago between the bricks in the pyramids, presented by Capt. David Molthrop, whose son, William, accompanied Capt. Austin on his expedition to the Euphrates, in 1816, and brought those curiosities of antiquity to America. After consigning these several articles to the recepticle awaiting them, Dr. Alden sprinkled the stone with corn, wine and oil, according to Masonic custom, and pronounced it "well laid and sure." Then kneeling down he supplicated the blessing of heaven on the work undertaken, and on the benefactors, officers, instructors and alumni of the institution of the present and all future generations, and on the large assemblage convened on the occasion. He then addressed the people, reciting briefly the growth, progress and future outlook of the college, whose charming location overlooking the valley of French Creek seemed destined by nature to be the site of a flourishing school, devoted to the interests of the literary, scientific and moral welfare of the community.

This being the anniversary commencement of Allegheny College, the appropriate exercises of the day took place around the corner stone, over which was erected an arched bower decorated with flowers, prepared by the young ladies of Meadville. The following exercises of the students were assigned for the occassion, a portion of which, however, for want of time, was omitted: 1. Hebrew oration, T. J. Fox Alden. 2. Greek oration, A. M. White. 3. Latin oration, R. W. Alden. 4. German oration, David Derickson. 5. Poem on the occasion, O. Taylor. 6. Oration on American Independence. T. J. Fox Alden. 7. Address on War, John W. Farrelly. 8. Speech on the Fall of Cæsar, David M. Farrelly. 9. Speech on American Affairs, O. Taylor. 10. Oration on the Dignity of Man, A. M. White. 11. Oration on the Importance of Missions to the Heathen, R. W. Alden. 12. Oration on the Occasion, David Derickson. Respectful notice was taken in the original pieces, of Rev. William Bentley, Isaiah Thomas and other benefactors of the institution. Of the students who took part in that commencement day more than sixty-four years ago, but one survives, David M. Farrelly, Esq., the senior member of the Crawford County bar, though Hon. David Derickson, the orator of the occasion, has only recently passed from the scenes of life. Taking into consideration the fact that the population of Meadville was then but 666, and of the whole county, 9,397, a proper conception may be realized of the magnitude of the undertaking, and of the public spirit and liberality of the pioneer fathers.

President Alden's untiring zeal and enterprise convinced people that his project would succeed, and that it was worthy of their benefactions. To the scholarly mind of Dr. Alden the ideal of a first-class college embraced the necessary feature of a great library, and to realize this, called forth his most earnest exertions. In happily securing such a collection of books as had few superiors in the country, at that time, the scheme of establishing the college seemed measureably assured of success. The first large contribution was bequeathed at his death, January 29, 1820, by the Rev. William Bentley, of

L. Williams

Salem, Mass., "who," says the historian, Day, "had spent his life in amassing one of the most rare collections of theological works in the country. Harvard University had set her eyes upon this collection, and having bestowed the preliminary plum, in the shape of an LL. D. diploma, patiently awaited the Doctor's demise. She occupied, however, the situation of Esau before Isaac ; for Mr. Alden had previously prepared the savory dish, and received the boon, and the name, Bentley Hall, now records the gratitude of Allegheny College. This collection embraced all his theological books, said to contain such a treasure of the ancient Latin and Greek fathers of the church—as few of the colleges of the United States possessed—all his lexicons and Bibles, and was valued at $3,000. Isaiah Thomas, Esq., LL. D., of Worcester, Mass., the founder and President of the American Antiquarian Society, also donated a considerable collection of miscellaneous literature valued at $750. Then came the most important bequest of all, that of Hon. James Winthrop, LL. D., of Cambridge, Mass, who, as the Boston *Patriot* of that day, said, "has bequeathed his library, one of the best private libraries in the Union, to the Allegheny College, at Meadville, where the late learned and reverend, and, we will add, uniformly patriotic, Doctor Bentley, sent a part of his very valuable collection." The Winthrop collection, containing 3,150 volumes, was characterized as a most rare and costly one, and was valued at $6,400. When all the donations had been collected and arranged, a catalogue was made and printed by Thomas Atkinson, of the *Messenger*, in 1823, a copy of which was sent to ex-President Jefferson, which drew from him the following reply:

MONTICELLO, February 14, 1824.

SIR—I am very sensible of the kind attention of the Trustees of Allegheny College in sending me a copy of the catalogue of their library, and congratulate them on the good fortune of having become the objects of donations so liberal. That of Dr. Bentley is truly valuable for its classical riches, but Mr. Winthrop's is inappreciable for the variety of the branches of science to which it extends, and for the rare and precious works it possesses in each branch. I had not expected there was such a private collection in the United States. We are just commencing the establishment of a university in Virginia, but cannot flatter ourselves with the hope of such donations as have been bestowed on you. I avail myself of this occasion of tendering to yours from our institution fraternal and cordial embraces, of assuring you that we wish it to prosper and become great, and that our only emulation in this honorable race shall be, the virtuous one of trying which can do the most good. With these assurances, be pleased to accept those of my high respect.

THOMAS JEFFERSON.

Ex-President Madison responded in a similar strain upon the reception of the catalogue, which elicited many commendations from distinguished men, who were well qualified to form an estimate of the rare worth of such a library. To the agency of Dr. Alden alone is Allegheny College indebted for it, and at this date it is difficult to conceive how he could have better served the cause which he so zealously labored to promote. The library augmented to 8,000 volumes, valued at $20,000, was the achievement of President Alden's administration; while several donations of land, by one of which the area of the college campus was increased from five to ten acres, also belongs to this period.

The location selected for the college buildings, out of the tract donated by Samuel Lord, upon the northern hillside, giving a southern exposure, with the whole broad valley spread out at its foot, the river, skirted by venerable shades, winding through it like a thread of silver, bold head-lands towering up on every hand, interspersed with a pleasing variety of meadow and forest, and the city, seated in queenly beauty, in the midst—such a situation is not excelled for natural advantages by the site of any college in the land, if at all equaled. The main building, erected at this period, in the Græcianesque style of archi-

tecture, was not completed for several years after the laying of the corner stone, and in 1829 a portion of the interior still remained unfinished. It is four stories in height, with wings fronted by lofty pillars, and the whole surmounted by a handsome dome, was well planned and substantially constructed, and reflects honor upon the broad and liberal views of the men who conceived it.

The course of study adopted for the degree of A. B. was very broad, embracing everything required in the older universities, and, while President Alden remained at its head, a high standard of scholarship was maintained. Though it appears from the official records that only twelve students were graduated during the fifteen years of Dr. Alden's administration, this number by no means represents the work done. The course was a severe one, population was sparse and the people poor, and the consequence was that few held out to the end, though large numbers received limited training. In 1829 an attempt was made to establish a military professorship in the college, but against this President Alden entered a solemn protest, and it was abandoned.

In the meantime adverse influences had begun to operate against the institution, which tended to check its growth and even jeopardize its existence. Within the bounds of the Presbyterian Synod of Pittsburgh, which embraced, including Washington County on the south, all of northwestern Pennsylvania, were already two colleges under Presbyterian patronage—Jefferson and Washington—one or the other of which nearly all the Presbyterian ministers of the region claimed as their alma mater. A general sentiment prevailed among them that if Allegheny College succeeded it must be at the expense of those already established, neither of which had adequate support. They therefore withheld their approval in documentary form when assembled in Presbytery, and for the most part their individual influence in their own congregations; hence, students were too few to support instructors, and upon the resignation of President Alden in November, 1831, all operations were suspended and the college closed. Thus, after sixteen years of indefatigable labor and self-sacrifice, the indomitable spirit of Dr. Alden was broken, but so long as time shall last his name will be handed down from generation to generation as the founder of Allegheny College.

Dr. Alden was born in Yarmouth, Mass., August 28, 1771; first studied at Phillip's Academy, in Andover, and graduated from Harvard University in 1794. He soon after engaged in teaching at Marblehead, where he was licensed to preach the Gospel, and in November, 1799, he removed to Portsmouth, Mass., and became pastor of the Presbyterian Church of that town. In the spring of 1800 he commenced teaching in a seminary for young ladies which was located in Portsmouth, and so continued until 1808, when he opened a similar institution in Boston. In 1809 Mr. Alden resigned this position, and the following year took charge of the Young Ladies' Department in the Academy at Newark, N. J. After a few years spent here, he removed to the city of New York, where he opened a school for young ladies, which he conducted until his coming to Meadville. His labors in trying to establish Allegheny College have already been told. In June, 1832, Dr. Alden went to Cincinnati, Ohio, but in the autumn of 1833 returned to this State and located at East Liberty, near Pittsburgh. The next spring he took charge of the academy at that place, and spent the remainder of his days in teaching and preaching the Gospel, dying in Pittsburgh, July 5, 1839, the nineteenth anniversary of the day when joyous and happy over the apparent success of his undertaking, he laid the corner stone of Bentley Hall.

For two years succeeding Dr. Alden's resignation the college stood a silent

monument of noble but unsuccessful efforts in the cause of literature and science. In the meantime an interchange of sentiment took place between the Trustees and some ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having for its object an arrangement for securing to the institution the patronage of the Pittsburgh Conference. In August, 1832, the Conference met at Wellsburg, Va., and an agent of the College Board laid before it their wishes. In harmony with the proposal the Conference decided to hold its next meeting at Meadville, and accordingly met here July 16, 1833, with Bishop Robert Roberts, presiding. After visiting the college and examining its library, etc., the Conference resolved unanimously to accept the proposition of the Board of Trustees by taking the institution under its patronage. It was also resolved to make an effort to raise an endowment fund of $20,000 to aid in sustaining the college, and to found a Roberts' professorship in honor of the venerable Bishop, but the project did not succeed.

The following faculty was elected under the new regime: Rev. Martin Ruter, D. D., President of the Faculty and Professor of Moral Science; Rev. Homer J. Clark, A. M., Vice-President and Professor of Mathematics; and Augustus W. Ruter, A. B., Professor of Languages. The first session opened November 4, 1833, and the college now entered upon a new era in her history. Between twenty and thirty students were enrolled on the opening day, and from that time forward her prosperity seemed assured, while her growth and high excellence as an institution of learning have kept pace with similar schools throughout the land. President Ruter was a man of large attainments, and had had some experience in working up a languishing institution at Augusta, Ky. He was ably seconded by Dr. Clark, who had also seen service in similar labor, at Madison College, in Fayette County, Penn. The number of graduates during Dr. Ruter's Presidency, were: in 1834, three; 1835, four; 1836, one; and 1837, six, or a total of fourteen.

Rev. Homer J. Clark, D. D., became President in 1837; and from 1838 to 1844, in which time State aid to the amount of $1,000 annually was regularly received, there was a good degree of prosperity; but, upon the withdrawal of that, the college was closed from 1844 to 1845, and President Clark went forth among the friends and patrons of the institution, soliciting assistance. As a result of his exertions, $60,000 was collected and invested. To his sagacity and energy chiefly is the college indebted for the plan of endowment known as the "Scholarship Plan," by which students are admitted to all the departments of the institution free of charge for tuition, and a corresponding income is permanently secured to the school.

In 1847 Rev. John Barker, D. D., was made President. He was a native of East Riding, of Yorkshire, England, but came with his parents to this country when three years of age, and was educated at Geneva College, New York. From 1840 to 1845 he was Vice-President of Allegheny College, and Professor of Natural Philosophy, from which position he went to be Professor in the Transylvania University, at Lexington, Ky., but returned at the end of two years. He was a man of strong mind, of varied knowledge, and, during his presidency, a good degree of prosperity attended his administration. Ruter Hall, the three-story brick structure immediately east of the main building, was completed in 1855 under the administration of Dr. Barker, at a cost of $6,000, contributed chiefly by the citizens of Meadville. It contains the chapel, library and museum. His useful work was brought to a sudden termination by death in 1860 while in the midst of his labors. He had passed the evening in examining the papers of his class, and, soon after retiring, was stricken with apoplexy, and shortly after quietly breathed his last.

The Rev. George Loomis, D. D., a native of the State of New York, who was educated at the Wesleyan University, Connecticut, had been Principal of the seminary at Lima, N. Y., Chaplain to the port of Canton, China, and President of the Female College at Wilmington, Del., and succeeded Dr. Barker. His Presidency occurred, in some respects, at an unfortunate period, the fires of civil war being just then beginning to be lighted, and the attendance in colleges for the next half dozen years, greatly disturbed thereby; but it was in many respects, successful and highly beneficial to the college. In 1864–65, through the munificence of Hon. C. V. Culver, was built and furnished the commodious three-story frame building known as Culver Hall, capable of accommodating over 100 students. It stood across North Main Street from Ruter Hall, and while the title to the property was yet in Mr. Culver's name, it was sold at Sheriff's sale in August, 1866, and bought in by Joshua Douglass, Esq. In March, 1870, Mr. Douglass conveyed the ground and building to the college, but on the 12th of December, 1882, the hall was burned down and has not since been rebuilt. While at the head of the college Dr. Loomis secured large additions to the vested funds of the institution, and the present healthy condition of the endowment fund is largely due to his successful efforts.

After the withdrawal of Dr. Loomis in February, 1874, the management of the affairs of the institution devolved on Vice-President Rev. Jonathan Hamnett, D. D., who was the acting President for one year.

Rev. Lucius H. Bugbee, D. D., was elected President of Allegheny College in February, 1875, and inaugurated on the 24th of June following. He was born in Gowanda, N. Y., November 25, 1830, and graduated from Amherst College, Massachusetts, in 1854. He soon afterward became Professor of Rhetoric and Logic in the Cooperstown Seminary, Cooperstown, N. Y. In 1857 he was appointed Principal of the Fayette Seminary, Fayette, Iowa, and the following year reorganized the school as the Upper Iowa University, of which he was President from 1858 to 1860. For the next four years he followed the ministry, but in 1865 became President of the Northwestern Female College, Evanston, Ill., where he remained until 1868, when he was called to the Presidency of the Female College at Cincinnati, Ohio, whence he came to Meadville. Soon the results of his labors here began to yield fair fruits. He found the college with about 100 students, the buildings very much dilapidated, the chapel small and dismal, no regular laboratories, and a general state of decay existing in and about the institution. He set to work at once with unusual vigor, enlarged and beautified the chapel, fitted up two laboratories, enlarged the recitation rooms, thoroughly refurnished the society halls, improved the grounds and renovated the whole interior of the buildings. The Preparatory and Military Departments of the college were established under Dr. Bugbee's administration. During his Presidency and mainly through his energetic labors, the large, substantial, elegant brick edifice, known as Hulings Hall, was completed and opened in 1881. It is the crowning glory of the college buildings, and was erected and partly furnished at a cost of $25,000, principally contributed by Marcus Hulings, Esq., of Oil City, Penn. The building is about 85x100 feet in dimensions, four stories in height, supplied throughout by gas and water, and heated by steam. It is used as a home by the lady students, will accommodate eighty persons, and is one of the finest public buildings in this section of the State.

Dr. Bugbee remained at the head of the institution seven years, during which period the patronage had increased 100 per cent and the graduates 25 per cent, while the contingent fund, derived from the students' matriculation

fee, had grown from $1,500 in 1875 to over $9,000 in 1882. Throughout his administration he was regarded as the pillar of the institution and recognized as a good scholar, a man of indomitable energy and remarkable executive ability. Toward the close of his Presidency the lack of harmony in the Board and faculty rendered his position an unpleasant one, and on the 28th of June, 1882, he sent in his resignation. His retirement from the head of the college was deeply regretted by a majority of the friends and patrons of the institution in Meadville, who met and passed appropriate resolutions of confidence in his administration and regret at his departure. Upon leaving Meadville, Dr. Bugbee went back to his native State and died at Geneva in the summer of 1883.

For one year the Vice-President, Rev. Jonathan Hamnett, D. D., attended to the duties of the position, while the Board were casting about for a worthy successor to Dr. Bugbee.

Rev. David H. Wheeler, D. D., LL. D., was elected President of the college in April, 1883, and inaugurated on the 27th of June following. Dr. Wheeler brought to the position long experience as an educator, a broad culture and a ripe scholarship. He is a native of Ithaca, N. Y., born in 1829, and has devoted most of his life to educational work. He taught Latin three years in the Rock River Seminary, served two years as Superintendent of Public Schools in Carroll County, Ill., five years as Professor of Greek in Cornell College, Iowa, and eight years as Professor of English Literature in the Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. Between his service in Cornell College and that at Evanston, he filled the office of United States Consul in Geneva, where he pursued historical and linguistic studies. Dr. Wheeler has for thirty years been a contributor to the periodical press, and is the author of several volumes. The degree of D. D. was conferred upon him by Cornell College and that of LL. D. by the Northwestern University. For more than thirty years he has been a lay-preacher, but has never been a pastor, having chosen the educational work in his youth as more congenial to his tastes. Dr. Wheeler came to his present position from New York City, where he had edited the *Methodist* for eight years. His administration opened under favorable auspices, and one short year of President Wheeler's government has convinced the Board and friends of the institution that he is a scholarly gentleman of high executive ability, under whose firm, vigorous and skillful management Allegheny College is destined to be successful and prosperous.

The Presidents of the college since its organization have been as follows: Rev. Timothy Alden, D. D., 1817–31; Rev. Martin Ruter, D. D., 1833–37; Rev. Homer J. Clark, D. D., 1837–47; Rev. John Barker, D. D., 1847–60; Rev. George Loomis, D. D., 1860–74; Rev. Lucius H. Bugbee, D. D., 1875–82; Rev. David H. Wheeler, D. D., LL. D., 1883, now serving.

The Vice-Presidents have been: Rev. Robert Johnston, D. D., 1817–18; Rev. Homer J. Clark, D. D., 1833–37; Rev. Matthew Simpson, D. D., 1837–39; Rev. John Barker, D. D., 1839–47; Rev. George W. Clarke, D. D., 1847–55; Rev. Calvin Kingsley, D. D., 1855–57; Rev. Lorenzo D. Williams, A. M., 1857–63; Rev. Jonathan Hamnett, 1863–84.

The past and present members of the faculty are: Rev. Timothy Alden, D. D., 1817–31; Rev. Robert Johnston, D. D., 1817–18; Rev. David McKinney, D. D., 1829–30; Reynell Coats, M. D., 1829–30; Rev. Martin Ruter, D. D., 1833–37; Rev. Homer J. Clark, D. D., 1833–47; Augustus M. Ruter, A. B., 1833–36; Rev. William M. Burton, A. M., 1836–39; Rev. Matthew Simpson, D. D., 1837–39; Rev. George W. Clarke, D. D., 1837–55; Rev. R. T. P. Allen, A. M., 1838–43; Rev. John Barker, D. D., 1839–60; Rev. Calvin Kingsley, D. D., 1840–57; Rev. Moses Crow, D. D. 1840–41; Rev. Jonathan Hamnett, D. D.,

1845; Rev. Lorenzo D. Williams, D. D., 1846–63; Rev. Alexander Martin, LL. D., 1855–64; Rev. William Hunter, D. D., 1856–71; Rev. George Loomis, D. D., 1861–74; Rev. James Marvin, D. D., 1863–75; Jeremiah Tingley, Ph. D., 1863; Rev. Ammi B. Hyde, D. D., 1864–84; George F. Comfort, Ph. D., 1866–72; Charles W. Reid, A. M., 1872; George W. Haskins, A. M., 1875; Rev. Lucius H. Bugbee, D. D., 1875–82; Rev. Wilbur G. Williams, A. M., 1877–82; James H. Montgomery, A. M., 1877; First Lieut. F. W. Hess, U. S. A., 1877–1880; First Lieut. George O. Webster, U. S. A., 1880–82; Harriet A. Linn, A. M., 1880–83; Milton B. Goff, Ph. D., 1882–84; Rev. David H. Wheeler, D. D., LL. D., 1883; First Lieut. John W. Pullman, U. S. A., 1883–84; Harriet A. Rooney, A. M., 1883–84; First Lieut. Alfred M. Fuller, U. S. A., 1884; Rev. David H. Wheeler, D. D., LL. D., President and Professor of Ethics and Social Science; Rev. Jonathan Hamnett, D. D., Professor Emeritus of Philosophy; Jeremiah Tingley, A. M., Ph. D., Professor of Physics and Chemistry; Charles W. Reid, A. M., Professor of Greek Language and Literature; George W. Haskins, A. M., Bradley Professor of Latin; James H. Montgomery, A. M., Professor of Natural History, and Instructor in Mathematics; First Lieut. Alfred M. Fuller, Second Cavalry U. S. A., Professor of Military Science and Tactics; Louise S. McClintock, A. M., Lady Principal; Rev. Jonathan Hamnett, D. D., Librarian; Rev. Alexander W. Newlin, A. B., C. W. Proctor and D. L. Thoburn, Instructors in Preparatory Studies.

The college library contains upwards of 12,500 volumes, many rare and valuable works and accessible to all students. Among the recent additions is a donation from the heirs of the late David Dick, Esq., of 760 volumes, made in the spring of 1877; and one of 600 volumes, in 1882, from the heirs of the late Rev. W. F. Day, D. D., made in accordance with his own request before his decease.

The institution possesses extensive cabinets of mineralogy and conchology, and complete chemical and philosophical apparatus of the most approved forms. The museum embraces several distinct collections of minerals, shells, fossils, insects, etc., also about 1,000 zoological specimens, including birds, reptiles, fish and marine animals, which are constantly being increased in number by the exertions of the Scientific Club. The art history collection contains sixty casts of works of sculpture, and about 400 photographs and engravings. They are so selected as to represent characteristic features of the different periods in architecture, sculpture and painting.

The college is on a safe financial basis, and its assets are estimated at the following figures: the grounds embracing sixteen acres and buildings thereon, $75,000; library, $20,000; cabinets, $50,000; apparatus, $15,000; permanent invested fund, $160,000; total, $320,000.

The alumni of the college now number nearly 700 names; prominent among these are: Hon. David Derickson, Hon. John W. Farrelly, Hon. William Reynolds, Hon. Darwin A. Finney, Hon. Pearson Church, Rev. Calvin Kingsley, D. D., Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Hon. F. H. Pierpont, ex-Governor of West Virginia; Rev. Moses Crow, M. A., D. D.; Rev. Sanford Hunt, M. A., D. D.; Rev. Alexander Martin, M. A., D. D., LL. D., President of Asbury University, Greencastle, Ind.; Rev. O. N. Hartshorn, M. A., LL. D., President of Mt. Union College, Ohio; Rev. James Marvin, M. A., D. D., President of Lawrence University, Kansas; Rev. Albert L. Long, M. A., D. D., Professor in Hobart College, Constantinople, Turkey; J. Walter Waugh, M. A., and Rev. James M. Thoburn, M. A., D. D., missionaries in India; Milton B. Goff, M. A., Ph. D., President of the Western Pennsylvania University, and many others well-known to our readers. In all

departments of life, civil and military, at home and in distant lands, Allegheny College is honored by the record made for her, in the lives and deaths of those whom she proudly calls her own. At present nearly the entire body of students is regularly drilled in tactics, and instructed in military science. The signal gun, fired at sunrise, arouses the sleepers of the entire city, and awakens the echoes far down the valley and up the dark ravines.

The Meadville Theological School was founded in 1844. It is provided in the act of incorporation that "no doctrinal test shall ever be made a condition of enjoying any of the opportunities of instruction, except a belief in the divine origin of Christianity." At one time five different denominations were represented among its students, though the school was founded mainly by the Unitarians, with some co-operation by members of the Christian denomination. The brick building, originally built for the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, nearly opposite the northwest corner of the First Presbyterian lot, was used for chapel, library and class-rooms until 1853, when the commodious building, known as Divinity Hall was erected upon a commanding site, upon the eastern hill, as Allegheny College was upon the northern, and commanding a full view of the city and a wide stretch of varied landscape to the west, and occupied in 1854. The grounds, four acres in extent, were contributed by the Rev. Frederic Huidekoper, and the building was erected at an expense of $17,500. It contains a neat chapel, a library room with about 15,000 volumes, hung with paintings and medallions of the Presidents and patrons of the school; a reading-room, provided with the leading religious and secular newspapers, periodicals and reviews; dormitories for students, and apartments for boarding and for the family of the Steward.

During the early years of the school it was supported by an annual contribution from three churches in the city of New York, of $1,000; from the American Unitarian Association, of $500; from the proceeds of a fair held in Boston, and from sundry other smaller contributions. In 1851 an endowment fund of $50,000 was raised, which has been more than doubled since by legacies, donations, profits of fortunate investments, and savings from income. The unproductive assets, as the building, professors' residences and library, are estimated at $36,951, and the productive at $164,491; making a total valuation of about $201,442. About three-fifths of this amount came from New York, New England, Baltimore, and Unitarian friends elsewhere, one-fifth from the accumulated results of good investments, and the remaining fifth from the family of the late H. J. Huidekoper, Esq., to which the school is largely indebted in founding, and in the judicious management of its funds and its affairs.

The Rev. Rufus P. Stebbins, D. D., was the first President, and to his popularity as a speaker, and his practical methods of instruction for students of various grades of efficiency, was largely due the measure of success attained during its early years. He was succeeded in the Presidency in 1856 by Rev. Oliver Stearns, D. D., and he in turn, in 1863, by Rev. A. A. Livermore, D. D., who still worthily holds the place. The Rev. Frederic Huidekoper, as Professor of New Testament Interpretation Literature and Ecclesiastical History, for many years gave his services gratuitously to the school.

In addition to their legitimate duties to the institution the Trustees hold in trust a fund of $23,000, given and bequeathed by the late Joshua Brooks, Esq.: 1. "To aid Western ministers whose salaries are inadequate to their support. 2. To improve the libraries of ministers by a loan or gift of books. 3. To aid libraries which may be formed by associations of Western ministers. 4. To aid parishes in forming or increasing permanent ministerial libraries."

In the execution of this trust in addition to other work, the fund (with additions to it) has supplied 4,200 ministers with small libraries.

The Meadville Business College was established in 1865 by Prof. A. W. Smith, and is one of the great Bryant & Stratton chain of commercial colleges. It has been under the personal direction and supervision of Prof. Smith since it was founded, and has prospered to a gratifying degree. The college occupies commodious and pleasant rooms in the Corinthian Block on Water Street, and aims to give thorough instruction, enforced and illustrated by practical application of the principles taught. For this purpose teachers of actual experience are employed, whose personal attention is given to each student individually, and the transactions of business life are presented in precisely the form in which they would present themselves in the counting-room, bank or any other place where the affairs of traffic or exchange are recorded, systematized and brought to completion.

CHAPTER IV.

NEWSPAPERS—CRAWFORD WEEKLY MESSENGER—ALLEGHENY MAGAZINE—WESTERN STANDARD — MEADVILLE GAZETTE—UNITARIAN ESSAYIST—WESTERN STAR—MEADVILLE COURIER—CRAWFORD DEMOCRAT—STATESMAN—AMERICAN CITIZEN—DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN—MEADVILLE GAZETTE—CRAWFORD JOURNAL — PENNSYLVANIA SENTINEL—CUSSEWAGO CHRONICLE—SPIRIT OF THE AGE—MEADVILLE REPUBLICAN—MEADVILLE INDEX—CRAWFORD COUNTY POST — MEADVILLE REPORTER—DEMOCRATIC MESSENGER—MESSENGER DEMOCRAT — MORNING NEWS—NATIONAL VINDICATOR — CHAUTAUQUAN—CHAUTAUQUA ASSEMBLY HERALD — PENNSYLVANIA FARMER—MEADVILLE TRIBUNE—PAST AND PRESENT MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CITY.

THE Crawford *Weekly Messenger* was established at Meadville by Thomas Atkinson and W. Brendle, and first issued January 2, 1805. It was the fourth newspaper founded west of Pittsburgh, and the first in northwestern Pennsylvania. The *Centinel of the Northwestern Territory*, established at Cincinnati, Ohio, by William Maxwell, November 9, 1793; the *Western Spy and Hamilton Gazette*, at the same place by Joseph Carpenter, May 28, 1799, and the Scioto *Gazette*, at Chillicothe, Ohio, by Nathaniel Willis, in 1801, were the only papers published north of the Ohio and west of the Allegheny River at the time Mr. Atkinson cast his fortunes in the little village on the banks of French Creek. In the first number of the *Messenger* the following notice appears: "The *Messenger* will be published every Wednesday morning and delivered to subscribers at $2 a year, $1 to be paid on receiving the first number, and the remainder in six months. Advertisements not exceeding a square will be inserted three times for $1, and for every subsequent insertion, 25 cents." The paper was a four-page sheet, four columns to a page, and 17x20 inches in size. In 1827 it was enlarged to a 19x24-inch sheet; and again in 1831 to a 20x30, with five columns to a page, which made it quite a respectable looking paper.

From the *Messenger* of 1830 we gather an important item in reference to the first press used in that office. Mr. Atkinson says: "In a note by the editors of the *United States Gazette*, referring to the ancient village of Ephrata, situated in Lancaster County, in this State, the fact is noted that 'one of the first printing presses introduced into the State,' was located in that village. As a small item of history connected with our profession we have to add that the identical press in question became the property of the editor of this paper

John Reid

in the year 1804. He caused the wood work to be renewed, and removed it to Meadville in the fall of that year. It was the first printing-press introduced into this State, northwest of the Allegheny River, and from which the first sheet was issued in this region. All the continental money issued by Congress, while at Lancaster and York, during the Revolutionary war, was struck upon it. This relic of antiquity is now, we believe, the property of Mr. Purviance, of the neighboring county of Warren, and from which the *Union*, a very respectable sheet, is issued. Long may it continue to administer to the welfare, prosperity and happiness of the *Union*."

After about eight months' experience Mr. Brendle sold his interest to Mr. Atkinson, who continued to edit and publish the *Messenger*, first as a Democratic and afterward as a Whig journal, until March, 1833, when he sold the office to Joseph C. G. Kennedy, whose name first appeared at the head of the paper in the issue of March 30 of that year. Prior to disposing of the paper, Mr. Atkinson endeavored to collect what was due him from delinquent subscribers, and in the issue of January 19, 1833, made the following forlorn-hope appeal to that ungrateful class:

We seize the occasion to remind delinquent subscribers that beef, pork, tallow, candles, butter, and grain of every kind will be received in payment at fair prices. Also three-quarter inch and inch and a quarter pine boards and shingles of good quality.

Mr. Kennedy was not twenty years old when he assumed editorial control of the *Messenger*, and he continued to publish it until November 7, 1835, when it ceased to exist. Established when Meadville was a small village of log-cabins; when the few "clearings" scattered along the larger streams were the only settlements in the county; when even the paper upon which it was printed was carried on horseback through the dense forest for over 100 miles, it witnessed and recorded on its pages the steady advance of prosperity until the "chopping" of the pioneer was transformed in the cultivated farm, and the public road, the turnpike and canal in turn had brought to the doors of all the comforts and luxuries as well as the necessities of life. To its files in the Public Library we are indebted for many of the earliest events connected with the pioneer history of Crawford County, which were culled therefrom by the late Thomas Ruston Kennedy and Hon. William Reynolds, whose indefatigable labors thus rescued from oblivion many local incidents in the early history of this portion of the State.

The *Allegheny Magazine* was established by Rev. Timothy Alden, the first President of Allegheny College, in July, 1816. It was a small monthly magazine, and was published only one year, being discontinued for want of patronage.

The *Western Standard* was begun by Joseph D. Lowry in 1820, but it lasted only a brief period.

The Meadville *Gazette* was started March 18, 1828, by Jacob Williamson, but it too was soon a thing of the past.

The *Unitarian Essayist*, a 12-mo. monthly devoted to the interests of the Unitarian Church, was established in January, 1831, by H. J. Huidekoper, Esq., who published it for two years, the last number being issued in December, 1832.

The *Western Star* was started by William M. Whittey & Co., and first issued June 13, 1830. The *Messenger*, commenting on its appearance, says: "Judging from its editorial exposé we are led to infer its course will be alike opposed to political Masonry and anti-Masonry." The *Star* had a flickering existence for not quite a year, and in April, 1831, the office passed into the possession of W. W. Perkins.

The Meadville *Courier* was established by W. W. Perkins, and the first number issued from the defunct *Star* office April 20, 1831. According to the *Messenger* it presented a very creditable appearance, and displayed considerable talent in its editorial columns. It was a four-page sheet, 20x30 inches in size. In April, 1832, William McLaughlin obtained an interest in the *Courier*, and subsequently the whole of it, but Mr. Perkins continued in editorial charge until July, 1833, when he relinquished the post to Samuel W. Magill. Mr. McLaughlin published the paper regularly up to September 12, 1837, when he sold out to James E. McFarland, of the *Democrat*.

The Crawford *Democrat and Northwestern Advertiser* was founded by James E. McFarland, and first issued August 22, 1835, at $2 per year in advance. It was a four-page sheet, 20x30 inches in size, with six columns to the page. With the beginning of Vol. III it dropped its second title, coming out as the Crawford *Democrat*. On the purchase of the Meadville *Courier*, September 12, 1837, the name was changed with the first issue to the *Crawford Democrat and Meadville Courier*. On the 19th of May, 1840, the heading was again changed back to the Crawford *Democrat*. Mr. McFarland continued to edit and publish the *Democrat* until March 31, 1846, when, having been elected Prothonotary of Crawford County, he retired from the management in favor of Henry B. Brooks and Edgar S. Porter, though still retaining the ownership. No material change occurred in its size until January 5, 1847, when it was enlarged four columns, making a sheet 23x34 inches, which was gradually enlarged to 24x36. Brooks & Porter published the *Democrat* until April 1, 1848, just two years, when Mr. McFarland again took the helm to guide the Democracy of Crawford County, and conducted the paper until the end of April, 1857.

On the 1st of May, 1857, William Willson, having previously purchased the *Democrat* from Mr. McFarland, assumed full control. He published the paper until the close of April, 1861, when he sold out to Thomas W. Grayson. This veteran editor published the *Democrat* continuously for twenty-three years. Under his judicious management the paper had a prosperous career, but advancing years and ill health forced him to retire from an active business life, and on the 5th of June, 1884, Mr. Grayson disposed of the *Democrat* to Murphy & Nichols, of the *Democratic Messenger*. The paper was then a four-page sheet, 27x40 inches in size, and had been in existence nearly forty-nine years, as the leading Democratic organ of the county.

The *Statesman* was a Whig newspaper, established by Joseph C. Hays, and first issued July 27, 1836, from the type of the Crawford *Weekly Messenger*, the material of which Mr. Hays had purchased upon its demise. It was a four-page sheet, 21x30 inches in size, and published at $2 if paid within the year, otherwise, $2.50, and was an ardent advocate of the policy and doctrines of the Whig party. On the 24th of January, 1837, the paper came out under a new heading as the *Statesman and Crawford County Free Press*, which so remained just one year, when it was changed to the Crawford *Statesman and Independent Press*, and again, July 27, 1839, to the Crawford *Statesman and People's Free Press*. Mr. Hays continued to edit and publish the paper until May, 1841, when he engaged Darwin A. Finney to take control of its columns. Mr. Finney ran the *Statesman* until near the close of the year, when Mr. Hays sold out to William Gill, and the paper ceased to exist.

The American Citizen was started by Samuel W. Magill, in December, 1841, and sprang from the purchase of the *Statesman* by William Gill. It was a Democratic four-page paper, 19x32 inches in size, and lasted only until August 17, 1842.

The *Democratic Republican* was the successor of the *Citizen*, and was first issued August 24, 1842, by Magill & Whitaker, at $2 per annum. It was a four-page Democratic sheet, 22x32 inches in size, six columns to a page. In January, 1844, S. W. Magill assumed full control of the *Republican*, with A. P. Whitaker associate editor, the latter retiring July 6 of that year. With the close of Volume II Mr. Magill retired, and Henry C. Johnson became editor and publisher, which position he held until February 22, 1845, when Mr. Magill again assumed control, and continued at the head of the paper until the close of 1846. In January, 1847, E. B. Eshelman took the helm, and ran it one year, when Mr. Magill sold the paper to Joseph C. Hays, the founder of the *Statesman*, and its career ended as an exponent of Democratic doctrine.

The Meadville *Gazette and Farmers' Advocate* was established in April, 1844, by Lewis L. Lord. It was a Whig paper, published at $2 per annum if paid within the year, otherwise $2.50; was a four-page sheet, 22x32 inches in size. On the 20th of April, 1847, the paper appeared under the title of the Meadville *Gazette*, dropping the latter portion of its old name. In June, 1850, Mr. Lord sold the *Gazette* to Joseph C. Hays, who consolidated it with the *Journal*.

The *Crawford Journal* was founded by Joseph C. Hays, under the title of the *Democratic Whig Journal*, he having previously bought out the *Democratic Republican*, and on the 13th of January, 1848, issued the first number of the *Journal*, a four-page sheet, 24x36 inches in size, and as its name indicates, politically Whig. In June, 1850, Mr. Hays purchased of Mr. Lord the Meadville *Gazette*, consolidated the sheets, and June 18, the paper came out under the heading of the Meadville *Gazette and Whig Journal*. On the 21st of February, 1852, the name was changed to the *Crawford County Whig Journal*, and June 15, 1855, to the *Crawford Journal*, which title it still retains. It became the organ of the American party, and from the birth of the Republican party the *Journal* was an unswerving advocate of that political faith, and has never deviated from that path. Col. Hays edited and published the *Journal* until November, 1864, when he sold it to John D. Nicholas. In December, 1865, the office was burned down, and the following spring the *Journal* was re-isued by Edward Bliss and John D. Nicholas, who ran it until April, 1867, since which time it has been successively under the editorial control of Thomas McKean, McKean & Frey, Johnson & McKean, McKean & Andrews, Robert Andrews & Co., Hollister & Metcalf, Chalfant & Tyler, Col. C. W. Tyler, and Thickstun & Hollister.

In the month of April, 1873, Hempstead & Co., purchased the *Journal*, and under the management and editorial control of E. A. Hempstead, it soon entered upon a new era of prosperity. The partnership lasted until February, 1883, when E. A. Hempstead became sole proprietor. It is an eight-page sheet, 35x48 inches in size, issued every Friday from its office on Chestnut Street, claims a circulation of over 2,000 copies, and is recognized as an able exponent of the Republican party, as well as one of the best conducted newspapers in northwestern Pennsylvania.

The *Pennsylvania Sentinel* was a Democratic sheet started in November, 1849, by James Onslow, and in 1850 Henry B. Brooks got an interest. Brooks & Onslow published the *Sentinel* until 1854, when James B. Burchfield obtained Mr. Onslow's interest in the paper, and Brooks & Burchfield continued to publish it until 1857. In that year Mr. Brooks sold out to his partner, who ran the *Sentinel* some two years longer. Removing the material to Titusville, in 1859, Mr. Burchfield established the *Petroleum Reporter and Oil Creek Gazette*, which in 1865 became the Titusville *Herald*.

The Cussewago *Chronicle* was established in 1850 by George Youngson. It was a sensational Whig sheet, derisively called the "Jakey," and was not regarded with much favor by the citizens of Crawford County.

The *Chronicle* was purchased by Harper Mitchell and S. S. Sears, who changed the name to the *Semi-Weekly Spirit of the Age*, a four-page Whig journal, 18x26 inches in size, published twice a week. It was first issued in September, 1853, and after a few months Mr. Mitchell became sole owner. He finally changed the paper to a weekly as the *Spirit of the Age*, a four-page sheet, 21x32 inches, and afterward disposed of it to George H. Hamilton, who ran it until the summer of 1860, when Alexander Meyers became proprietor.

He changed the name to the Meadville *Republican*, which is therefore the lineal successor of the *Chronicle*. William F. Clark purchased the *Republican* of Mr. Meyers, and early in 1865 sold it to R. Lyle White, who started the Meadville *Daily Republican* in June of that year. In August, 1867, Col. C. W. Tyler bought a half interest in the *Republican*, and with Mr. White published it until the spring of 1869, when he sold his interest to Joseph C. Hays, the veteran editor and founder of the *Journal*. White & Hays operated the paper until it was sold to a company with Mr. White as editor and publisher.

The *Republican* was purchased by Col. J. W. H. Reisinger, November 1, 1870, who in a brief time infused new life and vigor into its columns. From the time that he assumed control the *Republican* began to increase in popularity and circulation, until the patrons of the weekly numbered over 5,000. This large circulation was partly brought about through the purchase, in March, 1881, of the Meadville *Index*, which had been in operation at Meadville since the fall of 1877. On the 1st of January, 1884, the *Republican* passed into the possession of the Republican Publishing Company, H. C. Flood, editor and business manager. The *Republican* is an eight-page paper, 38x50 inches in size, claims a circulation of about 4,500, and is issued every Friday from its office in the Corinthian Block, on Water Street. We may also add that the *Republican* has the largest circulation of any paper in the county, and has always been an able champion of the Republican party, earnestly fighting the battles of that political organization from its foundation up to the present time.

The Meadville *Daily Republican* was an evening paper started in June, 1865, by R. Lyle White, to supply a long-felt want in the daily publication of the local news, as well as a brief summary of national and foreign events. Except two short intervals it has been published continuously since its establishment. With the issue of July 13, 1872, the title was changed to the *Evening Republican*, which heading it retained until March 13, 1880, when it went back to the old name, while the paper was enlarged and considerably improved through the passing years. Upon the purchase of the paper by Dr. Flood, the name was again changed to the *Evening Republican*, which is issued every evening, except Sunday, and claims a circulation varying from 700 to 1,000 copies.

The Meadville *Index* was the out-growth of a monthly sheet called *The Index*, started by A. W. Howe, at Cambridgeboro, in 1869. Upon the death of Mr. Howe in February, 1872, Dr. D. P. Robbins purchased the press and material and published *The Index* until October, 1877, when he sold out to F. H. and George O. Morgan, who removed to Meadville and commenced the publication of the Meadville *Index*, a four-page, six-column sheet, 22x30 inches in size. Its last issue was March 30, 1881, when it was purchased and absorbed by the *Republican*.

The *Crawford County Post*, the only German paper in the county, was established by Fritz Fries April 20, 1876. It is a four-page sheet 28x40 inches in size, is published at $2 per year, and has a circulation of about 1,000 copies. Politically the *Post* is independent, and wields considerable influence among the large German population of this portion of the State. The office of the *Post* is at 992 Water Street, whence it is issued every Thursday.

The Meadville *Reporter* was a small daily paper started in 1877 by Williams & Orr, and ran some four years.

The *Democratic Messenger* grew out of the *Reporter*, and was established in February, 1879, by a stock company of leading Democrats of Meadville, as a Democratic organ. Williams & Orr were the first editors and publishers of the *Messenger*, and after them came W. E. Humelbaugh, who conducted the paper until April, 1881, when J. C. Murphy and H. S. Bates, under the firm name of Murphy & Bates, took charge of its columns. On the 10th of October, 1883, Mr. Bates retired from the firm, and Mr. Murphy ran the *Messenger* until June 9, 1884, when J. H. Nichols became a partner. Murphy & Nichols at once bought the *Crawford Democrat* of Mr. Grayson.

They consolidated the papers under the title of the *Messenger-Democrat*. It is an eight-page paper 30x44 inches in size, and claims a circulation of about 3,200. The office is on the northwest corner of Chestnut Street and Park Avenue, over the Postoffice, and the paper comes out every Thursday. The union of the *Messenger* and *Democrat* has made the consolidated paper the Democratic organ of Crawford County, while its large circulation entitles it to be classed among the leading newspapers of this portion of the commonwealth.

The *Morning News* was founded by E. C. Cullom and C. M. Blair, September 19, 1882, and printed in the office of the *Democratic-Messenger*. On the 16th of July, 1883, Murphy & Bates, of the *Messenger*, became owners of the *News*, and it is now the property of the *Messenger-Democrat*. It was at first a four-column folio, but has been increased to a five-column folio, and is a bright, newsy, independent sheet, claiming a daily circulation of about 800 copies.

The *National Vindicator* was established in 1879 by William S. Plummer, as an advocate of the Greenback party, but after an existence of about three years it was discontinued.

The *Chautauquan* is "a monthly magazine devoted to the promotion of true culture," and is the organ of the "Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle." It was established in September, 1880, by Dr. T. L. Flood, of Meadville, and Milton Bailey, Esq., of Jamestown, N. Y.; but after the issue of the first number Dr. Flood purchased Mr. Bailey's interest, and then became sole owner. The *Chautauquan* was then a forty-eight-page magazine, 9x12 inches in size, but with the beginning of Volume III it was enlarged to seventy-six pages. The first twelve months it gained a circulation of 16,000 copies, which in the past three years has increased to the extraordinary number of 38,000. This magazine thus ranks among the most widely circulated monthlies in the United States, its readers encircling the nation, and Meadville may well feel proud to contain a citizen whose enterprise and energy have made her name so well known in every State from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico.

The Chautauqua *Assembly Herald* was established by Dr. T. L. Flood in June, 1876, and is the organ of the Chautauqua Assembly. It is an eight-page daily of forty-eight columns, and only published during the month of August in each year. Though issued at Chautauqua, the office of the *Herald* is located on Park Avenue, Meadville.

The Pennsylvania *Farmer* is a semi-monthly sheet devoted to the interests of the farming community. It was established at Mercer, Penn., in January, 1881, and in August, 1883, the office was removed to Meadville by R. H. Odell, its present editor and proprietor. The *Farmer* was a monthly until January, 1884, when it was changed to a semi-monthly. It claims a circulation of about 5,000 copies, and its office is located in the Corinthian Block, on Water Street.

The Meadville Tribune, daily and weekly, W. R. Andrews, editor, is the latest journalistic enterprise in this city. The daily is a twenty-eight-column sheet, 24x38 inches in size, was first issued August 11, 1884, and is published seven days a week. The Sunday issue is double the usual size, and the weekly is the same size as the Sunday edition. The *Tribune* is Republican in politics and has a large circulation throughout northwestern Pennsylvania. It is an enterprising, well edited newspaper, and exhibits a spirit of pluck and determination that the average reader is bound to admire. Under the management and caustic pen of Mr. Andrews it has assumed a foremost place among the newspapers of this section of the State.

Past and Present Manufacturing Interests of Meadville.—In 1789 Matthew Wilson began the erection of a log saw-mill on French Creek for David Mead, which was completed early in the following year. It stood just south of the "Red Mill" site in Meadville and began operations as soon as it was finished. The few pioneers then residing at "Mead's Settlement," with characteristic enterprise assumed the importance of an exporting community, and the first raft of lumber that ever descended French Creek and the Allegheny River went from this mill in the spring of 1790. Together with a raft of logs it was taken to Pittsburgh, and sold to Maj. Isaac Craig, Quartermaster in the army, for $1.50 per hundred feet. The hands in charge of the raft were: Edward Fitz Randolph, James Fitz Randolph, Frederick Baum, William Wilson, John Ray, Tunis Elson and John Gregg.

In the fall of that year a grist-mill was attached to the saw-mill. It was, however, a primitive affair of simple construction, viz.: an upright shaft with a tub-wheel at the bottom bearing the upper mill-stone on its apex. The meal or flour was roughly bolted through a wire sieve stretched over a wide hoop. An overshot wheel was afterward substituted and a water supply brought by a race from a point on Mill Run, near the site of Lindley's mill, which stood on the northwest corner of Liberty and North Streets, to a mill-pond formed by a timber dam on what is now the east line of Water Street. The pond extended east to Park Avenue and north to Randolph Street, and the office of Dr. Ellis is now near its northwest corner. A portion of the embankment which enclosed this pond as well as its bed are still plainly visible. A deep ravine into which the overflow poured extended to French Creek and was spanned at Water Street by a wooden bridge.

A distillery was added to the mill in 1805–06. It was the old copper boiler and worm still process and made a good brand of whisky, but stills soon became common all over the county, and whisky was a very cheap article. In 1824 this old log structure contained a grist-mill, saw-mill, fulling-mill, carding and cloth-dressing machines, also an oil-mill, and was operated by William A. V. Magaw until about 1829, when the building was torn down.

The Red Mill was erected by William A. V. Magaw about 1830 or 1831, immediately north of the site of the old log structure built by Gen. Mead. The foundation was laid on piles twenty feet long driven through the quicksand underlying the upper crust in the ravine then existing there. Mr. Magaw placed machinery in the building and opened the first

paper factory ever operated in Meadville. In April, 1833, Edward Derby leased the mill of Mr. Magaw and converted it into a flouring mill. In 1834 he put in carding and fulling machines. Joseph Dickson ran the mill in 1842, and at this time as well as for years afterward, a saw-mill stood just north of it. In 1845 Mr. Magaw again took charge of the building and converted it into a woolen factory, the first one opened in Crawford County. In 1848 he sold the machinery to Horace Cullum, who removed it to a frame building which he had erected on the northwest corner of Chestnut Street and Park Avenue, on the site of the postoffice. The Red Mill was then changed back to a grist-mill, which it has since remained, the power being furnished by water from the canal.

The pioneer mechanics of Meadville who were manufacturers in a small way were William Dick, carpenter, who began business in 1794; Jacob Raysor, gunsmith, 1795; Patrick Davis, tanner, 1796; Samuel Torbett, nail-maker, 1797–98; Lawrence Clancy, blacksmith, 1799; Eliphalet Betts, tailor, 1804; John Brooks, wagon shop, 1804; Nicholas Conrad, baker, 1805; William Shannon, Samuel Moon, saddlers, 1805; David Gumay, silversmith, 1805; William Burnside, blacksmith, 1805; Samuel Withrow, hatter, 1805; John Robertson, shoe-maker, 1805; Sampson and Joshua Hamilton, cabinet-makers, 1805; and George McGunnegle, tailor, 1805, nearly all of whom are more fully mentioned in Chapter I of the city history. James White established a tannery on what is now the southwest corner of Hon. William Reynolds' grounds in 1806, which he operated for some years. He erected the house now occupied by Mr. A. C. Huidekoper. James Hamilton commenced the manufacture of scythes, axes, hoes, etc., the same year.

Early in 1807 the "Meadville Society for the Encouragement of Domestic Manufactures and the Useful Arts" was organized for the purpose of building up the interests of the county. A circular was issued to the people of western Pennsylvania, setting forth the objects of the society, and showing up by way of encouragement the resources of the country. We cannot more thoroughly illustrate the public spirit of the leading pioneers of Meadville than to quote a few extracts from this circular. After showing that the absence of factories was the principal cause of the high prices paid for the manufactured goods, and, therefore, the corresponding scarcity of money, it says:

> The want of manufacturing establishments must always keep us moneyless and dependent, and in a territory so extensive as ours it is melancholy to relate that except the manufacture of whisky, a few hats, a little coarse linen and leather, we are entirely without manufactures. All our hardware and ironware; paper, clothing, such as are manufactured of cotton, wool, flax; also in a great measure the manufacture of hemp, oil, beer, porter, with numbers of other articles which the compass of this paper will not admit us to enumerate, are imported. * * * The wheat, flour and liquors, which when exported would bear no proportion to the necessaries we would require in exchange, might, if manufactures be encouraged and promoted, be expended at home in their support. This produce so applied would equal our wants, keep specie in the country, and wear away, in time, our dependent situation. Impressed with these sentiments, and wishing to propagate them for the good of our country, this society has been established.
>
> It will impart counsel, and give aid in proportion to its resources, to every undertaking that may promote manufactures and those arts which are useful. Money will be loaned as soon as our funds will admit of such accommodation, to those who will establish an oil-mill, fulling-mill, spinning and carding-machines, a brewery, and every other manufacturing establishment of use, upon reasonable security. Any individual friendly to such an institution can become a member of it upon going through the formality of an election, and contributing his specified proportion to the creating of a fund.

Maj. Roger Alden was President of the Board of Directors, and Henry Phillips Secretary, during 1807; and Gen. David Mead President, and Samuel Torbett Secretary, in 1808. This society existed for many years, and by the diffusion of information, the importation of sheep, cattle, flax and cereals

contributed greatly to the improvement of stock, the development of agriculture and the establishment of many industrial enterprises.

During the year 1810 there were manufactured within Crawford County 53,330 yards of linen cloth, 3,250 yards of cotton cloth, 16,819 yards of woolen cloth, and 70,000 pounds of maple sugar. There were 166 male weavers, 181 female weavers, 313 looms and 934 spinning wheels. In 1820 the county produced 89,626 pounds of sugar, 23,688 gallons of whisky, 15,000 pounds of carded wool, and 9,500 yards of dressed cloth; while it contained 40 saw-mills, 30 grist-mills, 4 carding-mills and 4 fulling-mills.

In 1813 Samuel Derickson established a cabinet shop on the southwest corner of Chestnut Street and Park Avenue. He had come from Northumberland County, Penn., the previous fall, as Captain of a company of volunteers, but taking sick was left behind when the command marched to the front. His first work in Meadville was to make a coffin for Dr. Thomas R. Kennedy, who died in March, 1813. The citizens advised Mr. Derickson to take up his abode here, and he thus remained and became a life long resident of Meadville, carrying on the manufacture of furniture until his death.

About 1814 Joseph Patterson, John Patterson and William Clark started a tannery on the southeast suburbs of Meadville. The partnership passed through several changes, and the yard was operated for about twenty years. It was at this tannery that George McFadden and Roderick Frazier learned the tanners' trade.

Three or four years after the opening of that tanyard, Joseph Patterson withdrew from the firm, and with Connor Clark and Richard Patch, established a tannery on the east bank of Mill Run, west of Water Street, which was run for many years. In 1839 George McFadden and Samuel Torbett, Jr., took possession of the tannery and carried on the business until 1865, a period of about twenty-six years.

Philip Leighty established a tannery during the war of 1812–15 on the corner of Plum and Steer's Alley, which he carried on until 1826, when Roderick Frazier bought the yard. He ran the tannery until his death in June, 1852, and his widow conducted the business for a couple of years afterward, then closed the yard.

Kennedy Davis was the next to open a tanyard in Meadville, beginning about 1828–29, on the east bank of Mill Run, west of Water Street. He ran the tannery to within a short period of the Rebellion, when he quit the business. In 1859 Henry Berg leased the establishment from Mr. Davis and carried on the business until 1862, when, having purchased the tannery in Kerrtown, he removed there and the Davis tannery was abandoned.

A grist and saw-mill was erected on the west bank of French Creek, near the Dock Street bridge, in 1817–18, by H. J. Huidekoper, Esq. The water-power was furnished by a race from the Cussewago. It passed from the hands of its builder into the possession of his son Edgar, who rebuilt it in 1854, added steam power, and in 1856 sold it to the present owners, Messrs. Gill & Shryock. The Cussewago Mills, as they are called, have been the leading flouring mills of this locality for many years. The building is now a commodious four-story frame, rebuilt in the spring of 1884. It contains seven sets of Stevens' rolls, with a capacity of 125 barrels of a superior grade of flour per day; also two sets of buhrs for grinding buckwheat and chop-feed. The mill is furnished with both water and steam power, and is a prominent factor in the industries of Meadville.

Lot Lewis erected a carding and fulling-mill about 1820, on the north bank of Mill Run, near what is now the northwest corner of North and Liberty

Wm. J. Johnson, M.D.

Streets. He ran the mill until 1833, when it was rented by Alvo Flint. In May, 1835, the property was purchased by Alanson Lindley, who carried on the business until 1853, when Edward Northam took charge of the mill, and has operated it up to the present. The same three-story frame erected by Mr. Lewis over sixty years ago is yet occupied, and will, doubtless, last for many years to come.

The art of manufacturing paper from straw by the use of alkalies was first discovered and successfully practiced in America by Col. William Magaw, a resident of Meadville, in 1827–28. Col. Magaw, since the fall of 1820, had been the proprietor of a paper-mill on Woodcock Creek, and was accidentally led to the important discovery by chewing a stalk of rye straw, which had been used in the leeching of ashes, the alkali having so affected the texture of the straw as to make it easily converted into pulp. The original idea lay in preparing the straw with alkalies, as paper had been manufactured from straw in Europe by a different process prior to that time. Large quantities of paper were afterward manufactured by the Magaws, at the Red Mill, in Meadville, which was operated as a paper-mill some three years. It was principally for wrapping, box and binding purposes; the enterprise in Crawford County proving quite a success. The product was mostly shipped to Pittsburgh, and other Southern markets.

In the spring of 1835 Col. Magaw constructed a machine for sawing veneering for furniture out of the native woods, especially birch, and put it into operation. At this time a great deal of handsome furniture was manufactured in Meadville; birch, ash and the several varieties of maple being most used. Much of this furniture was shipped to the Southern markets, principally New Orleans, where a ready sale was found for it.

Samuel Quail built a frame paper-mill on the site of the Eagle Foundry about 1840–42, and manufactured straw paper for some two or three years. The business was then abandoned and the building sold to Case & Sennett for a foundry.

In 1847 Horace Cullum purchased of William Reynolds the lot on which the postoffice now stands and erected thereon a plain frame building. He bought the machinery of the Red Mill (which had been operated as a woolen mill since 1845), and opened the Meadville Woolen Mill in 1848. Clinton Cullum subsequently obtained an interest in the mill, and the Cullum Bros. carried on the business until 1862, when Frederick W. Huidekoper bought out the concern. He was afterward joined by his brother, Gen. Henry S. Huidekoper. The mill burned down in 1865, and the Huidekoper Bros. purchased the brick building previously erected by Alfred Huidekoper for a market house, on the southwest corner of Centre Street and Park Avenue, and converted it into a woolen mill. They conducted the mill in this building about ten years, when they retired from the business, and the remodeled structure is now occupied for a public library.

Roderick Frazier erected a grist-mill near Mill Run, in the eastern part of Meadville, in 1850–51, and with David Morris ran it until his death in June, 1852. It was then leased to Jonathan David, who was succeeded by David Morris. The mill was afterward carried on by Mrs. Frazier, and after some ten or twelve years' operation altogether it was closed, and subsequently burned down.

On the 13th of March, 1833, Jared Shattuck opened a foundry, to which he subsequently added a distillery and carding-machine, on the south side of Randolph Street, opposite the Arsenal, which then occupied the site of the First District School building. In June, 1835, the establishment was burned

down, but the foundry was rebuilt the same fall. After running it a few years longer he sold out to Edward A. Reynolds, who after four or five years gave up the business.

The Eagle Iron Works was established by Watson Case and Pardon Sennett, under the firm name of Case & Sennett, on the southeast corner of Pine and Hemlock Streets, in 1845. Edward Reynolds was subsequently a member of the firm. The works came under the ownership of the present proprietor, George B. Sennett, in 1865, and form an important factor in the manufacturing interests of the city. The buildings are substantial brick structures, embracing a foundry, machine shops, blacksmith shops and ware rooms. The works are unusually complete, and are fitted up with a full equipment of fine machinery of modern improved character, while the heating apparatus and other provisions for the comfort of the employes is far superior to most establishments of this kind. From forty to sixty men are usually employed, and the annual product aggregates a value of $125,000 to $150,000. The productive capacity of the works is about seven tons of finished machinery per day.

The foundry and machine shop located on Pine Street, owned and operated by Curry & Co., was established by Robert Hill more than thirty-five years ago. He ran the foundry in a small way until 1859–60, when Benjamin McNeal became proprietor. In 1864 James Hazlet bought the works, and in 1866 sold them to the Curry Bros. In 1879 three of the Currys retired from the firm, and William F. Dickson and S. G. Curry became sole proprietors. Skilled workmen are employed in the various departments of these works, while the output requires the use of about 150 tons of pig metal annually. The work turned out is of a fine character and very wide in its range, the foundry having a general custom and job shop.

The Crawford Iron Works, located on Arch Street, was established by James Hazlet in the fall of 1858, and operated by him until 1880, when Harper & Kay became proprietors. In the fall of 1881 the Barrett Bros. bought the works, and still carry them on. The Crawford Iron Works are first-class in their appointments, and give employment to from twelve to eighteen mechanics.

The Phœnix Iron Works, at the south end of Water Street, was established in 1865, by Dick, Fisk & Co., but did not come under their present title until 1879, the firm in the meantime undergoing several changes in its membership. It is now composed of Samuel B. Dick, Sturgis T. Dick and Pearson Church, all whom are leading citizens of Meadville. The plant embraces about three acres of ground upon which are erected large, commodious brick buildings, wherein from ninety to one hundred hands find employment, necessitating an annual wage disbursement of between $50,000 and $60,000. Henry Church and John Dick attend to the practical management of the establishment. The business embraces all the features of a first-class foundry and machine shop devoted exclusively to the manufacture of engines and boilers, and is the most extensive private manufacturing enterprise in the city.

The Athens Mills were established by William Reynolds and William Thorp, under the firm name of Reynolds & Thorp, in 1869, and are located on the corner of Race Street and the canal. On the 1st of March, 1877, Mr. Thorp was succeeded in the firm by H. W. Reynolds, since which time the firm has been William Reynolds & Son. The plant of the Athens Mills embraces about five acres of ground, covered with the lumber yard and buildings devoted to the interests of the business. Between forty and fifty men are employed involving a yearly disbursement of from $15,000 to $20,000 in wages. Beside manufactured goods the firm is heavy dealers in all kinds of rough

and dressed lumber. Some idea of the large production of the mill may be gleaned from the fact that in the process of manufacture about 1,250,000 feet of lumber is worked up, about 10,000 doors, 30,000 windows, 26,000 feet of blinds and 200,000 feet of moulding turned out annually, beside large quantities of flooring, siding and other material for building purposes.

The planing mill and lumber yard of George H. Cutter & Bro., located on Poplar Street had its inception some six years ago when they began operations as contractors and builders, which developed into its present line about three years later. They usually employ nine men in their business, and their annual sales average about $25,000.

In 1862 W. D. Sackett opened a small carpenter shop on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad, south of Dock Street, and was soon after joined by William Thomas. The business gradually grew into a planing-mill and lumber yard, and the firm changed from Sackett & Thomas to Thomas & Painter, and again to Thomas & Gibson. In 1870 W. S. Harper bought out Gibson, and Thomas & Harper carried on the business until 1877, when Mr. Harper became sole proprietor. From fifteen to twenty hands find steady employment, and large quantities of sash, blinds, doors, etc., are manufactured annually.

John R. Halstead, and W. M. and E. S. Sayer, under the firm name of Halstead & Co., started a sash and door factory, in 1866, on the southeast corner of Willow and South Main Streets. In 1870 the two Sayers, as Sayer & Co., became sole owners. They employed from twenty-five to thirty hands, and ran the business until 1875, when they closed the factory and it has not since been re-opened.

The carriage factory of Dunn & Stalker on South Water Street was founded in 1856 by J. A. Dunn & Co., of which firm W. T. Dunn, one of the present proprietors, was the junior member. The old firm carried on the business until 1862, when Milton Dunn became owner, and he in turn was succeeded in 1876 by the present firm. All classes of light carriages, buggies, sleighs, etc., are here manufactured, while beauty of design and durability of construction are marked characteristics of the work turned out by this establishment.

Robert Hannah opened a wagon factory on Dock Street about 1845, and some five or six years afterward removed to Arch Street, where he erected shops and carried on a very extensive business for about fifteen years. He then sold out to Joseph Scowden, who in turn disposed of the business to George Shrick, who yet occupies the property.

Soon after the Rebellion had ended, a company of Pittsburgh capitalists started a barrel factory on the site of the Meadville Glass Works. They erected a building and equipped it with the finest machinery, but after an experience of about two years they quit the business.

The Meadville Agricultural Works were incorporated in December, 1868, with a capital stock of $100,000. Many of the most prominent citizens of Meadville were prime movers in the enterprise, and on the 29th of December, 1868, E. W. Shippen, Samuel B. Dick, G. B. Delamater, J. A. Dull, D. G. Shryock, J. S. Fisk and John Porter were chosen Directors; E. W. Shippen, President, and Edgar Huidekoper Clerk and Treasurer. The company obtained the patent for the Atlantic mower and reaper, which had been patented by a Meadville mechanic, and in 1869 began the manufacture of these machines in the building erected for the barrel factory. After turning out 1,500 or 2,000 machines it was discovered that many of the points embraced in the Atlantic were covered by other patents, the owners of which came on and obtained royalty. Thus crippled it was useless to go ahead, and the enterprise was abandoned.

The largest manufacturing institution in Crawford County is the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad shops of Meadville, where between 300 and 400 men are employed. The shops were erected in 1872 on the "Island," and consist of several extensive brick buildings devoted to the manufacture of railway cars and engines, beside the large amount of repairing necessary in a railroad establishment. There has never been an enterprise in Meadville that has added so much to its wealth, growth and general prosperity as these railroad shops, which is one of the interests in which her citizens exhibit a commendable pride.

The Meadville Glass Company (limited) was incorporated by a company of Meadville gentlemen composed of Samuel B. Dick, Pearson Church, G. W. Delamater, A. M. Fuller, James D. Gill, George B. Sennett, F. W. Huidekoper, A. C. Huidekoper, Sturges T. Dick, Abraham Blum, F. T. Fish, Alfred G. Church and William S. Rose, who organized by electing George B. Sennett, President, and A. C. Huidekoper, Secretary and Treasurer. The works were erected and put in operation August 1, 1882. The company have an invested capital of $40,000 in a plant of three acres of land, located in the southern suburbs of Meadville, upon the line of the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad. They erected most complete and commodious buildings suitable for the various departments and branches of window glass manufacture, of which the product solely consists. The works have an annual capacity of about 35,000 boxes of window glass in all sizes, and of superior quality. Between fifty and sixty workmen are employed in these works, necessitating a wage outlay of $40,000 per annum. A. M. Fuller, Esq., is President of the company, and Henry Essex General Manager of the works. The enterprise of this company deserves the highest commendation for the establishment of a business which is calculated to exert a beneficial influence upon the growth and prosperity of the city.

The Belgian Glass Company (limited) was organized in March, 1884, with a paid up capital stock of $30,000, its incorporators being G. W. Delamater, A. C. Huidekoper, F. T. Fish, Edgar Huidekoper, Lydie Bousson and Leopold Mambourg. The prime movers in the enterprise, however, were G. W. Delamater and A. C. Huidekoper. The company erected a large frame building on a plant of two acres of ground lying west of French Creek, in the southern suburbs of Meadville, on the line of the Meadville & Linesville Railroad. The officers are A. C. Huidekoper, President; G. W. Delamater, Secretary and Treasurer; F. T. Fish, General Manager. The works were opened in July, 1884, since which time about fifty workmen have been steadily engaged in the manufacture of a superior grade of window glass.

The Meadville Cigar Works were established by Henry Drewtlein in 1868. One shop is located on Chestnut Street, and another on Oak, and about 600,000 cigars manufactured annually. Twenty workmen find employment in turning out various grades of fine cigars, which have obtained a well-earned celebrity for their excellence, and have contributed largely to the general reputation of the house.

In May, 1881, Zieglar & Acuff established a factory on Water Street for the manufacture of brooms, brushes and cigars. In May, 1883, Zieglar, Hall & Lippitt became proprietors and have since dropped the manufacture of cigars, of which the old firm used to turn out nearly 300,000 annually, employing from six to ten hands in the cigar factory. They now employ about seven hands who manufacture 3,600 dozen brooms per annum, and the business bids fair to steadily increase.

The French Creek Tannery was founded by Thomas Kerr, across the creek

in what is now called Kerrtown, many years ago. He carried on the business until 1862, when Henry Berg, who had been, since 1859, running the Kennedy Davis tannery in Meadville, bought him out, and operated the yard about fifteen years. In the spring of 1877 Schauweker & Goeppinger purchased the tannery, but soon afterward Mr. Frank Schauweker became sole owner. The building is a commodious frame, fitted up with first-class machinery and the yard ample for all purposes. From fifteen to twenty hands find constant employment, turning out about 300 sides of all kinds of hides per week.

More than forty years ago William Kerr started a distillery on the west bank of French Creek. He was succeeded in the business by John McCauley, and he by Bartle & Patterson, who, on account of the high government tax on whisky, converted the business into a tannery. It subsequently became a malt house, for which purpose the building is now sometimes utilized.

Frank Schwab's brewery on the west bank of French Creek was established in 1862, by Conrad Fisher, and purchased by the present proprietor in 1871. It is a two-story frame and brick building, and Mr. Schwab manufactures from 1,000 to 1,500 kegs of beer annually.

The Kerrtown and Cussewago Brick Yard lies in southern Kerrtown on a plant of thirteen acres, and was opened by Joseph Anderson in 1862. He conducted the business five years, Andrew Stolz becoming proprietor in 1867. Both pressed and common brick are manufactured, the total output reaching 800,000 per annum. Mr. Stolz employs fifteen hands, and his brick has an excellent reputation.

In 1870 Peiffer & Richards started a distillery in Vallonia, which has since been operated at irregular intervals. After passing through the hands of several parties, it was purchased by Henry E. Wilson, of Meadville, the present proprietor, but has not been running for about a year.

CHAPTER V.

INCORPORATION OF MEADVILLE AS A BOROUGH—FIRST ELECTION OF OFFICERS—MEADVILLE BECOMES A CITY—POPULATION OF THE TOWN BY DECADES SINCE 1800 — BURGESSES — MAYORS— POSTMASTERS—THE OLD CEMETERY—GREENDALE CEMETERY—CITY HALL—MARKET HOUSE—ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL—MEADVILLE CITY HOSPITAL—FIRE DEPARTMENT—MEADVILLE GAS AND WATER COMPANY—ELECTRIC LIGHT—MEADVILLE WATER COMPANY—TELEGRAPH, TELEPHONE, AND EXPRESS COMPANIES—BANKS—HOTELS—SECRET AND OTHER SOCIETIES—PIONEER SHOWS, AND PUBLIC HALLS—PUBLIC LIBRARY—PARKS—CONCLUSION.

FOR twenty-three years after the organization of Crawford County, Meadville remained a village under the jurisdiction of the township government, but on the 29th of March, 1823, it was incorporated as a borough, and its boundaries thus described: "Beginning at the east end of Kennedy's bridge; thence along the Meadville and Mercer Turnpike Road, to the place where the south line of the south alley crosses said road; thence east along said alley to the Susquehanna and Waterford Turnpike Road; thence south along said road to the place where the north line of William Clark's farm crosses the same; thence east along the said line to the east end of the town tract; thence north along said line to the northeast corner of Samuel Lord's farm;

thence west along the north line of Samuel Lord's land to the bank of French Creek; thence down the meanders of said creek to the place of beginning." The first election for borough officers was held May 5, 1823, with the following result: Burgess, Thomas Atkinson; Council, Eliphalet Betts, Joseph Patterson, James Hamilton, Daniel Perkins and George Selden; Clerk, David Dick; Treasurer, Edward A. Reynolds. In 1841 an amendment to the borough charter erected the office of Assistant Burgess, and in 1853, by legislative enactment, the limits of the borough were enlarged. On the 15th of February, 1866, a new charter was granted by the Legislature, and Meadville became an incorporated city. Its growth has been slow but substantial, the official census showing the population by decades to be as follows: 1800, 125; 1810, 300; 1820, 666; 1830, 1,104; 1840, 2,000; 1850, 2,578; 1860, 3,702; 1870, 7,103; 1880, 8,860; while to-day it is estimated at about 10,000. The following are the Burgesses and Mayors of Meadville for the past sixty-one years:

Burgesses.—Thomas Atkinson, 1823, to May, 1824; Arthur Cullum, May, 1824, to December, 1824; John B. Wallace, 1825; William Foster, 1826; Robert L. Potter, 1827; James Hamilton, 1828; James Cochran, 1829; John Dick, 1830; Joseph Patterson, 1831; George Davis, 1832; John Reynolds, 1833; John Dick, 1834; Jesse Rupp, 1835; James Cochran, 1836; John W. Farrelly, 1837; Andrew Smith, 1838; John W. Farrelly, 1839–41; Gaylord Church, 1842; Alfred Huidekoper, 1843; Norman Callender, 1844; William Davis, 1845–46; David M. Farrelly, 1847; John Carr and Darwin A. Finney, 1848; Arthur Cullum, 1849; John Dick, 1850–51; Norman Callender, 1852; William H. Davis, 1853; A. B. Richmond, 1854; Jonathan Hamnett, 1855; John McFarland, 1856; John H. Mattocks, 1857–58; Arthur Cullum, 1859; John Mahoney, 1860; William Hope, 1861; John H. Mattocks, 1862; William Davis, Jr., 1863; Arthur Cullum, 1864; William Reynolds, 1865.

Mayors.—William Reynolds, 1866; James A. Dunn, 1867; Arthur Cullum, 1868; James G. Foster, 1869; Samuel B. Dick, 1870; A. S. Dickson, 1871–72; James D. Gill, 1873; H. L. Richmond, Jr., 1874; Myron Park Davis, 1875–76; G. W. Delamater, 1877; Milton H. McNair, 1878; Charles W. Miller, 1879–80; George B. Sennett, 1881; Walter S. Harper, 1882–83; Charles Farnicorn, 1884.

Postmasters.—A Postoffice was established at Meadville in 1801, and the Postmasters up to the present time have been as follows: Frederick Haymaker, April 1, 1801—December 31, 1802; Edward Work, January 1, 1803—September 30, 1807; James Gibson, October 1, 1807—May 31, 1812; Henry Hurst, April 1, 1812—April 10, 1814; Daniel Andrews, April 11, 1814—May 7, 1841; Joseph C. Hays, May 8, 1841—September 22, 1844; Charles L. Rowland, September 23, 1844—December 28, 1845; John J. Douglas, December 29, 1845—May 8, 1849; Archibald F. Stewart, May 9, 1849—May 12, 1853; James E. McFarland, May 13, 1853—May 5, 1861; Joseph C. Hays, May 6, 1861—September 24, 1862; Clinton Cullum, September 25, 1862—July 6, 1869; David V. Derickson, July 7, 1869—December 18, 1873; L. D. Williams, December 19, 1873—February 1, 1878; John F. Morris, February 2, 1878—March 28, 1882; J. W. H. Reisinger, March 29, 1882, and is the present incumbent.

The Old Cemetery.—When David Mead laid out Meadville, he set apart one acre of ground north of Randolph Street, on what is now Park Avenue, for a cemetery. Soon after the organization of the First Presbyterian Church in 1800, Gen. Mead deeded the ground to that body. The church subsequently purchased two acres adjoining the old lot on the north, and this cemetery was used as a general burial-ground until the opening of Greendale, when the bodies were removed and the land sold.

Greendale Cemetery.—On the 11th of March, 1852, "The Meadville Cemetery" was incorporated by the following citizens of the borough: John Dick, John Reynolds, John McFarland, Frederic Huidekoper, Darwin A. Finney, Gaylord Church, Calvin Kinsley, Joseph Derickson, William Thorp, Horace Cullum, David Derickson, William Reynolds, James E. McFarland, Joseph C. Hays, Richard Craighead, James D. Gill, William McLaughlin, Arthur Cullum, D. Sexton, R. C. Boileau, Kennedy Davis and Edward Ellis. The name of the ground was subsequently changed to "The Greendale Cemetery," which title it still bears. The association was organized April 21, 1852, and the following officers chosen: President, John Dick; Secretary, William McLaughlin; Treasurer, Joseph C. Hays; Managers, John Dick, Gaylord Church, Calvin Kingsley, Frederic Huidekoper, William Reynolds, William McLaughlin and Joseph C. Hays. A site of rare beauty and combining many advantages was in due time secured by the purchase of about fifty-three acres of land in the northeastern suburbs of the town. The grounds were enclosed and partially laid out by the formal opening-day, August 31, 1853, on which occasion John Reynolds, Esq., delivered an appropriate address.

Since the first purchase was made an additional purchase of about twenty-eight acres has been added to the cemetery, and it now contains over eighty acres. Sound judgment and good taste were alike employed in the choice and in the laying out of Greendale Cemetery. Many are the elements of natural beauty which adorn these broken acres of ravine and sloping hillside; and in harmony with these are the skill and art of those who directed and planned the early improvements of the grounds. Permanent and valuable improvements have been made from time to time. The erection of the beautiful stone gateway, the substantial receiving vault, the Superintendent's house, together with the laying out of handsome walks and driveways, have fully equaled the means at the disposal of the Board of Managers. Situated at the head of Randolph Street, Greendale lies on a beautiful ridge, flanked on the east by a deep and romantic ravine. The headstones are usually in good taste, while the monuments are chaste, and in a few instances aspire to a high order of artistic beauty. Secluded from the busy world, here is a calm retreat, where the living may walk among the graves and profitably meditate upon death.

The City Hall was erected in 1866, under the Mayoralty of William Reynolds, Esq. It is a two-story, substantial brick building, contains a council chamber and firemen's meeting rooms in the second story, the lower portion being occupied by apparatus of the fire department. It is located on the southwest corner of Chestnut and River Streets, and fully meets the wants of the city.

Market House.—Throughout the first half of the present century Meadville had no regular place for holding markets, the farmer and huckster disposing of their produce to the merchants or peddling it through the streets. Sometimes, however, a certain point would be selected for a market stand and used for an indefinite period. In 1857 Alfred Huidekoper, Esq., erected a two-story brick building where the public library now stands, and appropriated the lower story to the town for market uses. This was utilized for a year or two, and then abandoned, and the old mode of street peddling again resorted to. In 1870 the city authorities took the matter in hand, and erected the present substantial brick market house on Market Street, between Chestnut and Center, where regular markets have since been held. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday are the market days, and from early morn until noon of each the locality is crowded with every species of produce needed by the housewife. The interior of the market house is principally occupied by the butchers'

stalls, and the institution has proven a great convenience to both buyer and seller.

St. Joseph's Hospital, situated near the eastern end of Pine Street, in a quiet, pleasant and healthy locality, was established as an asylum for orphans, in 1865, by Mother Agnes, Sister Superior of the Sisters of St. Joseph of this city, who drew largely upon her own private means for the construction of the building and the care of its unfortunate inmates. Not only orphans, but many others, sick, wounded, or destitute, found food and shelter in this institution. The rapid growth of the city made the need of a building to be devoted to the exclusive uses of a hospital more and more felt, and as the means were not available for its erection, application was made to the Legislature at its session, in 1869–70, for the conversion of this asylum into a hospital. A charter was granted under the present title, and provides that patients shall be received without regard to religious belief. The building is a substantial two-story frame structure, surrounded by a pleasant yard and garden. In the east end of the building is a neat chapel, where the Sisters and any of the inmates who desire to do so, unite in daily worship. There are eight Sisters of St. Joseph in charge of the hospital, with Dr. T. B. Lashells as the regular attending physician and surgeon. The hospital is heated throughout by furnace and is capable of accommodating about thirty patients. It is also self-supporting, and while those receiving its benefits who possess the means are expected to pay, no applicant is rejected by reason of his or her inability to do so. St. Joseph's Hospital stands as an enduring monument to the energy, earnest devotion and self-sacrifice of those noble Sisters of St. Joseph who projected and continue to sustain it. Everything about the institution moves with that ease and regularity characteristic of Catholic institutions, while godliness, and cleanliness, its next of kin, rule through and around this hallowed spot, so truly dedicated to the interests of suffering humanity.

The Meadville City Hospital was incorporated July 2, 1880, by some fifty ladies and gentlemen of Meadville, with a capital stock of $50,000, and the following Board of Directors elected: Joshua Douglass, William F. Dickson, George W. Haskins, C. M. Boush, L. C. Magaw, H. W. Reynolds, John B. Compton, William Roddick and Richard Craighead. The Board organized July 24, 1880, by electing Joshua Douglass, President; C. M. Boush, Clerk, and W. S. McGunnegle, Treasurer. Early in 1881 the two-story frame building then known as the Welde Brewery, on Randolph Street, between North Main and Liberty, was purchased at a cost of $2,500. It was considerably repaired and remodeled, to suit the purposes for which it was intended. The first patient was admitted April 30, 1881, and the building dedicated November 19, of that year. Thus the hospital was commenced, and it has gone on under successive Boards, faithfully performing the work for which it was established. An experienced matron has charge of the institution, and two physicians, whose services are donated to the hospital, look after the medical wants of the patients.

Fire Department.—The first effort made to organize a fire company in Meadville occurred January 9, 1829, when a meeting was held in the court house, and the preliminary steps taken in that direction. During the year a crank engine was purchased at a cost of $500, and a fire company organized, and for the first time the borough felt ready to cope with the fiery element. Another engine of the same sort was subsequently purchased, and these served the purpose for about twelve years. In 1842 the Cussewago Engine Company, No. 1, was organized to man a brake engine previously purchased. Some four or five years afterward the Rough and Ready Engine Company, No. 2, was

R. P. Miller

organized to take charge of a similar engine. This company contained many of the leading young men of Meadville; and at this time the fire department of the borough was regularly organized, with Wilmot Bartle as Chief Engineer, who served in that position for several years. In the fall of 1865 James D. Gill became Chief of the Department, and a steamer was purchased by the city and named the "J. D. Gill." The Taylor Hose Company, No. 1, was organized by Mr. Gill in 1865, to man a hose cart presented to the town by R. M. N. Taylor, of the McHenry House. The Fire Police were organized under Mr. Gill's administration, in 1866, and Hope Hose Company, No. 2, and Keystone Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1, were also organized the same year. Subsequently the Torrent Engine Company, No. 3, was organized, and the Rough and Ready changed to the Empire Engine Company, No. 2.

The several Chiefs of the Fire Department since 1865 are as follows: James D. Gill, 1865–66; Hudson L. Sherwood, 1866–67; James D. Gill, 1867–69; M. Park Davis, 1869–72; John M. Clark, 1873–75; H. L. Richmond, Jr., 1876–78; William A. Logan, 1879–80; Frank A. Striffler, 1881; John M. Clark, 1882–83; William S. Rose, 1884. In November, 1875, were organized S. B. Dick Hose Company, No. 5, M. Park Davis Hose Company, No. 6, and the Delamater Coffee Engine Company. On the 1st of December, 1875, after the completion of the water works, the department was re-organized on the following basis: Steamer "J. D. Gill," No. 1; Keystone Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1; Taylor Hose Company, No. 1; Hope Hose Company, No. 2; Cussewago Hose Company, No. 3 (name changed to the J. M. Clark in 1877, and in 1884 to the J. Ford Dorrance); Empire Hose Company, No. 4 (name changed to the H. L. Richmond, Jr., in the spring of 1877); S. B. Dick Hose Company, No. 5; M. Park Davis Hose Company, No. 6; Independent Fire Police, No. 1; and Delamater Coffee Engine Company, No. 1; the latter to supply the firemen with hot coffee during fires. Four hose carriages were purchased by Chief Richmond in 1876 to equip the Cussewago, Empire, S. B. Dick and M. Park Davis Hose Companies. The several buildings where the apparatus and headquarters of the companies are located, are as follows: The building of the Taylor Hose Company is at the foot of Chestnut Street on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad; Hope Hose, and the Keystone Hook and Ladder Company, in the city hall on Chestnut Street; J. Ford Dorrance Hose, corner of Park Avenue and Center Street; H. L. Richmond, Jr., Hose, on Market Street between Chestnut and Arch; S. B. Dick Hose, on State Street, above its junction with North; and M. Park Davis Hose, on South Main Street, below Poplar. The Board of Engineers is composed of the Chief and his two assistants, and the Foreman and Assistant Foreman of each company. These combined companies give Meadville an active volunteer fire department of nearly 300 members. Each company is fully equipped to successfully combat fires of any reasonable magnitude, while the great elevation of the reservoir will force six steady streams over the top of the highest building in the city.

The Meadville Gas and Water Company was chartered January 9, 1854, with a capital stock of $39,000. The works were built by Stephen Meredith, on the corner of Poplar and South Main Streets, and the stock was owned principally by capitalists of New Jersey. In 1864 a company of Meadville citizens purchased the works, increased the capital stock to $100,000, and subsequently erected new buildings on French Creek below the Mercer Street bridge. The company own between seven and eight miles of gas mains, and the receiving tank at the works has a capacity of 40,000 cubic feet of gas. Up to and including the 15th of February, 1884, the city was lighted by ninety-one lamp-posts, but on that date the company's contract with

the city ceased, and gas was replaced by the Fuller electric light. The officers of the company are: William Reynolds, President; Samuel B. Dick, Treasurer; S. T. Dick, Secretary; George S. Cullum, Superintendent. Office, 226 Chestnut Street.

Electric Light.—On the 20th of October, 1883, the city entered into a contract with the Fuller Electral Company for the latter to light Meadville with the electric light. The light was put in on experiment, the city agreeing to pay the Fuller Company $4,800 for the use of fifty electric lamps for one year from the date when first lighted, and in case the light gave satisfaction the city further agreed to pay for the entire plant and apparatus $14,664. The one-story brick building on the corner of Pine Street and the railroad, used as the station for the dynamos, was erected by the city. Meadville was first lighted by electricity February 16, 1884, and so far the light has given good satisfaction, though it is generally admitted by even its most enthusiastic friends that more lamps are needed to light the city in a thorough manner.

The Meadville Water Company.—In 1873 a proposition to put in water works at the expense of the city was submitted to the voters of Meadville and rejected. A few of the enterprising citizens, among the most active of whom were J. J. Shryock, James D. Gill, Samuel B. Dick, Pearson Church, George B. Delamater, William Reynolds, Alfred Huidekoper, F. W. Huidekoper, George C. Porter and H. L. Richmond, Jr., then submitted a proposition to the Council agreeing to build the works on condition that the city would contract to use a certain number of hydrants at so much per hydrant. The Council accepted the proposal, and on the 30th of October, 1874, the company was chartered. The construction of the works was commenced at once, and in September, 1875, they began operations. The pump-house is a brick building containing two pumps, and is located on French Creek, just north of the corporate limits. The power is usually furnished by a fifty-four-inch American turbine wheel, supplied by water from the canal; but a 125 horse-power engine is in the building to furnish power in case of necessity. The reservoir is located in the northeastern suburbs of the city, immediately east of Highland Avenue. It has a capacity of 5,000,000 gallons, and an elevation of 290 feet above French Creek at the pump-house. The total pumping capacity is about 2,250,000 gallons per day, though usually but one pump is running at a time; and about seventeen miles of mains carry water to every portion of Meadville, in which there are 930 consumers. The works cost about $155,000, and the capital of the company is $125,000. J. J. Shryock was President of the company until 1878, when he was succeeded by James D. Gill, who has since held the position. The other officers are: H. L. Richmond, Jr., Secretary; Samuel B. Dick, Treasurer; George S. Cullum, Superintendent; and the office is at 226 Chestnut Street.

Telegraph, Telephone and Express Companies.—The Pittsburgh & Erie Telegraph Company opened an office in Meadville about 1850, with C. W. Mead as the first agent and operator. The office was in his jewelry store on Chestnut Street, east of the Delamater Block. The United States Telegraph Company purchased the line soon after it was constructed, and they in turn sold out to the Western Union. Anson Porter was the second agent and operator, and had his office on the southwest corner of Dock and Water Streets. William Woodruff was manager of the office for a few years prior to the appointment in 1871 of the present manager, Mr. E. M. Boynton. The office is in the Delamater Block.

The Atlantic & Pacific Telegraph Company established a line through Meadville in 1878, but after about two years operation it was absorbed by the Western Union and ceased to exist.

The Postal Telegraph and Cable Company, since changed to the United Lines, began putting in apparatus at Meadville in August, 1883, and sent their first message in January, 1884. They are not yet, however, receiving local messages, though they take business for New York and Chicago after certain hours. The office is on Water Street, between Chestnut and Center.

The Bell Telephone Exchange was established in Meadville on the 10th of May, 1881, by E. M. Boynton, the present manager, and has been in use since that date. There are seventy-one telephone patrons in Meadville, and the city has telephonic connection with most of the towns and villages in Crawford County, as well as many of the cities within a radius of 150 miles.

The American Express Company opened an office in Meadville in 1858, with L. C. Magaw as agent. The office was in the old J. R. Dick & Co. Building on Chestnut Street, and the express was brought from Erie by stage over the Plank Road. Upon the construction of the Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad in 1859-60, the American changed its route and brought the Meadville express matter from Conneautville. The American continued its office in Meadville until the opening of the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad in October, 1862, when it withdrew from this field.

The United States Express Company came in with the opening of the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad to Meadville, in October, 1862. L. C. Magaw was the first agent, and the company has still an office here.

The Union Express Company came to Meadville with the opening of the Meadville & Linesville Railroad, in October, 1881. It embraced the Adams and American Express Companies, but in June, 1883, the territory was divided and the Adams retained control of this field. Though the Adams and United States are two separate and distinct companies, they occupy the same office at the foot of Chestnut Street, Capt. W. H. Thompson being the agent of both companies.

Banks.—The first financial institution established in Crawford County was a branch of "the Northwestern Bank of Pennsylvania," chartered by the Legislature in 1814, with a capital stock of $200,000. This stock was divided into 4,000 shares at $50 per share, and apportioned in the following manner: 1,000 shares to Crawford County; 1,000 to Erie; 1,000 to Mercer, and 1,000 to Venango and Warren. The books for the Crawford County branch were opened at the house of Samuel Torbett, in Meadville, May 4, 1814, Thomas Atkinson, Henry Hurst, John Brooks and Samuel Torbett being the Commissioners in charge of the stock. When $100,000 of stock was subscribed for, and $20,000 paid in, the several branches could begin business under the charter. On the 28th of October, 1814, the bank was organized, and the stockholders of Crawford County having selected Meadville as the site of their branch, elected the following gentlemen Directors of the same: James Herriott, Roger Alden, Eliphalet Betts, William Clark, Samuel B. Magaw, Henry Hurst, John Reynolds, Jacob Shryock, John Brooks, Patrick Farrelly, Rufus S. Reed, Wilson Smith and William Connelly. The Board of Directors then elected Samuel B. Magaw, President, and Joseph Morrison, Cashier, and on the 4th of January, 1815, the bank began business. Mr. Magaw died in March, 1816, and William Clark succeeded him as President. The bank was located on the east side of Water Street, above Walnut, and in 1820 had a circulation of $56,854. It had a very successful career, but was crippled in the financial troubles of 1820, and in the fall of 1822 closed its doors.

The private banking house of J. R. Dick & Co. was founded in 1850, by J. and J. R. Dick, who up to that time had been leading merchants of Meadville. Possessed of ample capital and large responsibility, the bank has for

many years prosecuted an extensive business. The firm as at present constituted consists individually of Messrs. Samuel B. Dick and Sturges T. Dick, who while retaining the original firm style under which the house had become so widely known, have also perpetuated the same high business character which has ever been a distinguishing feature of this time-honored establishment.

The Bank of Crawford County was chartered May 9, 1857, and began business that same fall, on the Diamond, in the brick building now occupied as the law office of W. R. Bole, Esq. It had a capital stock of $150,000 divided into 3,000 shares of $50 each. Upon the passage of the national bank law, it obtained a charter as the "National Bank of Crawford County," but never had an issue under this charter. It removed to Water Street, and continued to do business until 1866, when it failed.

The First National Bank was organized in 1863, with Charles A. Derickson President. It had a capital of $100,000, but failed on the 3d of June, 1880.

The Merchants' National Bank was chartered in January, 1865, and began business April 1 of that year, on Water Street, with a paid up capital of $100,000. James E. McFarland was President, and John Porter Cashier. On the 10th of January, 1866, John McFarland was chosen President, and James E. McFarland, Cashier, the latter retaining the same position up to the present. In October, 1881, Alexander Power succeeded to the Presidency of the bank, *vice* John McFarland, deceased. This bank is one of the leading financial institutions of the county, and is the only one in Meadville operating under the national banking system.

The Meadville Savings Bank, located on Water Street, was organized April 15, 1867, with a paid up capital of $30,000, though the individual responsibility of the stockholders is very large. Cyrus Kitchen was elected President at the organization, and has ever since filled that position. Samuel P. Officer was Cashier of the bank from its organization up to August 1, 1884, when he was succeeded by W. R. McCoy.

The Peoples' Savings Bank, located on Water Street, was established April 13, 1871, with a capital of $30,000, and has ever since been in successful operation. The stockholders of this bank embrace many of the most substantial citizens of the county, therefore the financial standing of the institution is first-class. Upon its organization Gideon Mosier was elected President, and J. H. Lenhart, Cashier. In June, 1872, F. W. Ellsworth became President *vice* Mosier, deceased. On the 26th of July, 1873, J. L. Beatty was chosen President; July 7, 1879, A. J. Whipple; and July 3, 1882, W. S. Harper. The Cashier, Mr. Lenhart, resigned January 23, 1879, and E. T. Anderson was elected to fill the place.

The private banking institution of Delamater & Co. was established on the 22d of May, 1876, and began business in their present elegant quarters in the Delamater Block. The firm as at present constituted is composed of Hon. G. B. Delamater, T. A. Delamater, G. W. Delamater and W. S. McGunnegle. This bank is one of the strongest financial institutions of the city, and is highly creditable to the county, whose thrift has made it at once a necessity and a success.

Hotels.—It will, doubtless, be conceded by everyone, that the Commercial is the leading hotel of Meadville, located in the handsome Delamater Block, on the northeast corner of Chestnut and Water Streets. It occupies the second, third and fourth stories of that massive structure, and contains ninety good rooms, most of them large, airy and comfortably furnished. Opened for the reception of guests upon the completion of the building in 1876, the Com-

mercial at once took a leading position, and has ever since maintained a high reputation among the hotels of northwestern Pennsylvania. Every room in the house is supplied with water, gas and an electric bell, while the wide halls and convenient stairways, together with the passenger and baggage elevators, render the Commercial all that the traveling public could desire. The Andrews Bros. took charge of the Commercial May 1, 1883, and under their judicious management it has been highly successful, always receiving the larger portion of the best patronage which business or pleasure has drawn to Meadville.

Soon after the completion of the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad, the company erected adjoining the depot a large frame hotel, called the McHenry House, which was the leading hotel of the city until the opening of the Commercial. The furniture was finally purchased by Mr. Delamater in March, 1881, and the house closed. In March, 1882, Col. John M. Clark, who for five years had been proprietor of the old McHenry, leased the Occidental, on Chestnut Street, between Water Street and the depot, practically rebuilt and refurnished it throughout, and named it the New McHenry. It is a three-story frame building containing thirty-five rooms, and its patronage is wholly made up of transient guests.

The Budd House was erected by Jason Budd in 1875, and was conducted by him for some time. In 1882 the property was purchased by Frank A. Striffler, the present proprietor. It is a handsome three-story brick building containing forty excellent rooms, and is wholly occupied by the hotel. The Budd is located on the northwest corner of Water and Pine Streets, gets a fair share of the local and traveling trade, and under Mr. Striffler has been very prosperous and popular.

The Gable House had its inception more than half a century ago, John E. Smith being the proprietor of the "Lion Tavern," in 1830, which occupied a portion of the present building. A Mr. Sherwood ran it for many years as the Sherwood House; but in 1864 it was purchased by Charles Gable, who remodeled it in 1865, and changed the name to the Gable House. It is a three-story brick structure containing thirty rooms, and is located on Water Street, between Arch and Pine. The Gable is convenient to the business center of the city, and enjoys a good local patronage.

The Colt House was erected by Sidney Colt many years ago, and carried on by him until his death in 1867. His widow and son Tracy continued to run it until 1880, when J. P. Williams became proprietor, and he in turn was succeeded by Henry Rogers in the spring of 1884. The Colt is a three-story frame of twenty-five rooms, and is located on Water Street, adjoining the Commercial.

The St. Cloud Hotel is a three-story brick containing twenty rooms, and is located on the northwest corner of Water and Chestnut Streets. It is owned and carried on by Henry Wilson, and does a small transient trade.

The Kepler House stands opposite the Market House on Market Street, and was opened by S. W. Kepler in 1879. It is a three-story frame building of eighteen rooms, a plain, home-like hotel, quite popular with the farming community, as Mr. Kepler is known all over Crawford County.

The Central Hotel, on the northeast corner of Center and Water Streets, long known as the Rupp Hotel, was erected in 1819, by Col. William Magaw, for a residence and store, but for over thirty years has done service as a hotel. It is a two-story brick building, and does a good local business.

There are many other hotels in Meadville well adapted to the class of patrons to which they cater, such as the old Crawford House on the Diamond,

which has been a hotel since its erection in 1819, and the Thurston House on Park Avenue; but those mentioned embrace the ones best known and patronized.

Secret and other Societies.—The first secret society organized in Meadville was the Western Star Lodge, F. & A. M., instituted September 23, 1817, with the following officers: Robert L. Potter, W. M.; David Logan, S. W.; David Molthrop, J. W.; J. T. Cummings, Treasurer; John D. Morrison, Secretary; Oliver Johnston and J. N. Y. Hunt, Deacons; Aaron S. Barton and James Stanford, Stewards; Benjamin Plumstead, Tyler. This lodge disbanded at the time of the anti-Masonic excitement. The Masonic lodges instituted in Meadville since that time have been as follows: Crawford Lodge, No. 284, F. & A. M., organized November 14, 1848; Solomon Chapter, No. 191, R. A. M., organized February 9, 1859; Northwestern Commandery, No. 25, K. T., organized July 22, 1867, and Lodge No. 408, F. & A. M., organized January 20, 1868. All of these organizations meet in the Boileau Block on Water Street.

The I. O. O. F. have four lodges in Meadville, viz.: Cussewago Lodge, No. 108, I. O. O. F., chartered April 21, 1845; Olympus Encampment, No. 82, I. O. O. F., chartered October 9, 1848; Crawford Lodge, No. 734, I. O. O. F., chartered October 4, 1870; and Myrtle Lodge, No. 60, Daughters of Rebekah. These lodges and encampment meet in the Derickson Block on Chestnut Street.

The K. of P. have four lodges in the city: Crawford Lodge, No. 164, K. of P., organized June 29, 1869, meets in the Postoffice Block; Meadville City Lodge, No. 256, K. of P., organized June 3, 1870, meets in the Crawford Block on Water Street; Endowment Rank, No. 362, of Meadville City Lodge, K. of P., organized December 4, 1879; and Northwestern Division, No. 8, Uniform Rank, K. of P., organized April 21, 1881.

Jefferson Lodge, No. 1, A. O. U. W., organized October 27, 1868, meets in the Postoffice Block, and Herman Lodge, No. 83, A. O. U. W., organized in October, 1874, meets in Shryock's Block. This Order had its inception in Meadville, the first lodge ever instituted (Jefferson No. 1) having been organized in this city by John Jordan Upchurch in 1868. It has since prospered wonderfully, and has lodges in every portion of the United States and Canada.

Meadville Council, No. 78, Royal Arcanum, was organized April 16, 1878; and French Creek Council, No. 325, Royal Arcanum, was organized April 25, 1879. The Home Circle organized in 1881 is a branch of this Order. These lodges meet in the Crawford Block on Water Street.

Alpha Lodge, No. 42, K. of H., was organized November 14, 1874; Home Lodge, No. 1349, K. of H., was organized January 20, 1879, and the Knights and Ladies of Honor also belong to this Order. Shryock Block on Water Street is the meeting place of these lodges.

The German Brotherhood was organized in November, 1858, and meets in the Betts Block on Water Street. This society is composed exclusively of Germans, as is also Allemania Lodge, No. 116, D. O. H., organized September 11, 1865.

Other societies of a beneficial nature are as follows: Two Equitable Aid Unions, Legion of Honor, Royal Templars of Temperance, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Conductors' Brotherhood, Brakemen's Brotherhood, I. O. O. B., Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, Emerald and St. John's Beneficial Society. If we add to these the Germania and other singing societies, and the many church and college societies, it will be readily seen that Meadville is well supplied with such institutions.

Reynolds Post, No. 98, G. A. R., was organized in 1868, but surrendered its charter after an existence of about ten years. Peiffer Post, No. 331, G. A. R., was organized May 11, 1883, and has now some fifty members.

On the 15th of February, 1880, a society of the Y. M. C. A. was established in Meadville, but after a brief existence was disbanded. In July, 1882, the present society was organized, and has a temporary room on the northeast corner of Chestnut Street and Park Avenue.

The Meadville Literary Union was organized December 14, 1866, by a number of the leading literary men of the city. Under the constitution of the society it cannot embrace more than thirty members at one time, vacancies being filled by the election of other members. Some member of the society delivers a lecture once a month, excepting July and August, at the residence of one of the members, and since its organization eighteen years ago this programme has been regularly carried out. About 180 lectures on that number of different subjects have, therefore, been delivered by the members of this society, and it is impossible to calculate the great amount of good which it has thus accomplished by the dissemination of knowledge among the people, and the encouragement of historical and literary pursuits among its members. These lectures are preserved in manuscript form with the intention of some time in the future binding them in volumes, which will prove of great value to the county.

Pioneer Shows and Public Halls.—The first traveling show to visit Meadville came in the fall of 1819, and was called Harrington's Circus. From the *Messenger* of October 1, 1819, we cull an item relating to this early circus: "A living African lion will be seen at the inn of Samuel Torbett, in Meadville, on Saturday and Monday, the 2d and 4th of October, from 9 o'clock in the morning until 5 in the evening. The form of this lion is strikingly majestic, his figure is very respectable, his looks are determined, his gait is stately, and his voice is tremendous. He is the largest and the only one of his kind in America."

Perhaps the earliest exhibition of a dramatic nature in Meadville was given by a local amateur society on the 31st of March, 1824. The *Messenger* gave the entertainment the following notice: "On Thursday evening will be performed, by the 'Meadville Thespian Society,' at the tavern of Mr. George Hurst, the comedy called 'Who Wants a Guinea?' after which will be performed the farce called 'A Pedlar.' The doors will be open at half after six, and the curtain will rise at a quarter to seven. Admittance 25 cents. Tickets to be had at the different inns of Meadville. The front seats to be occupied exclusively by the ladies." The fashionable opera-goer of to-day will doubtless smile at the primitive simplicity of those pioneer shows, but they were all the early settlers had or could afford to support. The Thespian Society continued to give entertainments for several years, but as there was no public hall in the borough, the performances took place in the largest room of some one of the many taverns. We find them giving a three-nights' entertainment in April, 1827, at Livy Barton's hotel, "the proceeds to be devoted to the purchase of a fire engine, for the use of the borough." With the growth of the town, a better class of traveling theatrical troops gave an occasional entertainment in Meadville, until finally metropolitan ideas so expanded among the people that none but first-class troops will be patronized.

It was not until 1857 that Meadville possessed a good public hall where entertainments could be given. In that year Alfred Huidekoper, Esq., erected a two-story brick building on the site of the public library, the upper story of which was devoted to a public hall. This was the beginning of public hall building in Meadville. In 1859–60 A. S. Dickson erected the Corinthian Block on Water Street, with a hall in the upper story; and in 1864 A. B. Richmond built a frame structure on Chestnut Street above Park Avenue,

which was known as the Museum Hall. This building was replaced in 1871 by the Richmond Block, wherein a good public hall is located. The Opera Block, which was destroyed by fire January 8, 1884, had one of the finest opera houses in this section of the State. The building was erected in 1864-65 by Horace Cullum, but was purchased in the spring of 1869 by J. & G. C. Porter and Daniel Fowler, who at once began to put in an opera house. It was completed and opened in the fall of 1869, at a cost of about $20,000, and had a seating capacity of about 1,000. In this opera house some of the leading stars of the American stage have appeared.

Public Library.—In the fall of 1867 an effort was made by a few of the leading citizens of Meadville to establish a public library and reading room. Among those who took an active interest in the enterprise were Hon. William Reynolds, Hon. George B. Delamater, Joshua Douglass, Esq., Joseph Shippen, Esq., Rev. A. A. Livermore, D. D., Rev. John V. Reynolds, D. D., L. C. McGaw, Esq., R. Lyle White, Esq., H. L. Richmond, Esq., Rev. James Marvin, D. D., Rev. A. B. Hyde, D. D., Rev. George Loomis, D. D., Dr. A. B. Robbins, Rev. John C. Zachos, Harvey Henderson and C. W. Winslow, Esq. A society called the "Meadville Athenæum," was organized, and a committee appointed to obtain subscriptions to a capital stock of $10,000, to be used in the establishment of a library. The effort to raise this fund did not succeed, and the scheme fell through, the last meeting being held on the 8th of January, 1868.

Soon afterward Dr. E. H. Dewey, George O. Morgan and L. F. Margach conceived the idea of establishing a library in which the condition of membership should be the donation of one or more books and the payment of $1 annually. After due deliberation they called a meeting in the hall of the Temple of Honor, in the Betts Block, and among those who responded were Dr. E. H. Dewey, George O. Morgan, L. F. Margach, Col. C. W. Tyler, Brook Butterfield, Thomas McKean, A. Stewart Davis, J. H. Lenhart, E. H. Henderson, James Neil, Allen Coffin, William Roddy and J. T. Herrington. The meeting organized and agreed on the "City Library of Meadville" as the name of the institution; Dr. E. H. Dewey was elected President; Brook Butterfield, Secretary and Treasurer; Thomas W. Grayson, Rev. A. A. Livermore, James Neil, Dr. William Church and Allen Coffin, Trustees; L. F. Margach, Librarian. Mr. Margach tendered a portion of his office located in the room now occupied by the *Messenger*, over the postoffice, also his services free. Some rude shelves were put up, and to the surprise of those interested, books began to come in rapidly, and many of them valuable ones. One of the largest and most valuable contributions was made by R. Lyle White, then editor of the *Republican*. In less than a month after the organization, the library contained nearly 200 volumes, many of them subscription books which had cost the donors from $2 to $4 each. Mr. Margach acted as Librarian during the two or three years the embryo library remained in his office. It was then removed to a small room over Porter's hardware store on Water Street, and a lady librarian employed. From here it was removed to the Richmond Block on Chestnut Street, where a free reading room was opened, and thence to the Derickson Block on Chestnut Street, its last place of abode. By this time the library contained nearly 3,000 volumes, which were turned over to the "Meadville Library, Art and Historical Association," in March, 1880.

In November, 1878, Mr. N. B. Hofford, then on the *Republican*, having read of the successful "Loan Exhibitions" held in other cities, inserted a brief local in that paper suggesting a "Loan Exhibition" in aid of the City Library, soon followed by a call for a public meeting to perfect arrangements

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for the same. But three persons answered the call, viz.: N. B. Hofford, George W. Adams and Robert Mulrainey, yet, nothing discouraged, they judiciously selected the names of thirty prominent ladies and gentlemen of the city, whom they appointed a Committee of Arrangement to carry the proposed scheme into execution. The majority of the members of this Committee met at the time and place designated, elected officers and took active steps toward holding the "Loan Exhibition," which opened January 16 and closed February 3, 1879. The total receipts were $2,437.47, and net profits $1,637.60.

The way now seemed clear for a greater triumph than the projectors and leaders in the "Loan Exhibition" had dreamed of, and Prof. Samuel P. Bates, President of the Library Association, to whose indefatigable labors as President of the "Loan Exhibition" its success was largely due, by direction of the Board of Trustees of the City Library, and request of many other citizens, called a meeting at the court house February 14, 1879, to consider a project for the purchase of a property for the use of a public library and art association. The meeting appointed William Reynolds, J. J. Shryock and Miss E. G. Huidekoper, a Committee to examine and select said property. On the 4th of March, 1879, this Committee reported in favor of the old Central Hall building and lot, on the southwest corner of Park Avenue and Center Street, which Gen. H. S. Huidekoper offered to sell for $8,500, and head the subscription for its purchase with a gift of $1,000. On the 11th of March the President of the Library, Prof. Bates, was authorized to select a Committee to apply for a charter, and thereupon appointed the following persons: William Reynolds, Miss E. J. Huidekoper, J. J. Shryock, Joshua Douglass, Thomas Roddy, John J. Henderson and George W. Adams. After careful consideration the "Meadville Library, Art and Historical Association" was organized and incorporated May 10, 1879, with a capital of 200 shares at $25 each.

The first stockholders in the enterprise were: Elizabeth G. Huidekoper, Thomas Roddy, Edgar Huidekoper, Samuel P. Bates, William Reynolds, George B. Sennett, Sturges T. Dick, A. McLean White, G. W. Delamater, Joshua Douglass, A. C. Huidekoper, Alfred Huidekoper, George W. Adams, A. M. Fuller, D. G. Shryock, G. B. Delamater and H. L. Richmond, Jr., all of whom subscribed one share each. From this list the first Board of Directors were chosen, viz.: William Reynolds, Miss E. G. Huidekoper, Samuel P. Bates, Thomas Roddy, Edgar Huidekoper, Joshua Douglass, George B. Delamater, George W. Adams and George B. Sennett. The Board organized by the election of William Reynolds, President; Samuel P. Bates, Secretary, and George W. Adams, Treasurer. All of these directors and officers have been re-elected annually up to the present, and under their judicious management the library has prospered beyond the most sanguine expectations of its warmest friends.

In August, 1879, the property selected by the committee was purchased, but many changes and improvements were necessary to render it convenient for the objects contemplated. Part of the building was removed, a considerable portion of the walls were rebuilt and carried to a greater height, making a portion of the structure three stories high. The interior was completely remodeled. In addition to a vestibule, spacious halls and a wide stairway, it contains a lecture-room of seating capacity for seven hundred, a library and reading-hall of 34x51 feet; Historical room, 15x34 feet; Art room, 34x20 feet, and hall of Natural History, 34x15 feet, and Directors' room. The basement was neatly floored, and the lecture-room opened December 22 and 23, 1879, and the other rooms were ready for occupation in March, 1880. The cost of these improvements, including furnishing, cases and shelving, was $5,862.70, making the total cost $14,362.70.

By mutual agreement between the officers of the "Meadville City Library" and the "Meadville Library, Art and Historical Association," the books belonging to the former were transferred to the new building on the 3d of March, 1880, and under the supervision of Miss E. G. Huidekoper, President of the Library Department, were re-catalogued and placed upon the shelves. Since that time many additions have been made to the library, and its shelves now contain about 4,000 volumes. The reading-room is supplied with thirteen leading monthly magazines, four weekly magazines and all the city papers, while the Historical Society gets one weekly paper from each of the counties in this Congressional District. In August, 1883, the Association received from Rev. Frederic Huidekoper an endowment fund of $2,500, the interest alone to be used in the purchase of books for the library. Under the official charge of Miss Sue McCracken, who has been Librarian since February, 1879, neatness and order prevail in every portion of the library, and the citizens of Meadville have just cause for boasting of an institution which does honor to their city.

The Historical Society of Crawford County is a branch of the library proper, and was organized February 16, 1880, with Joshua Douglass, President. Within its rooms will be collected and preserved the records of the early history of the county and State, old letters containing descriptions of this part of the State or county, reminiscences of the early settlers, their manner of living, etc. Old maps, manuscript or printed matter, old newspapers and pamphlets, autograph signatures and letters, oil portraits of citizens and others of life size, photographs, old account books, trophies and mementoes of the late war, and Indian and prehistoric relics. Many valuable books, letters, manuscripts, maps and archæological relics have already been contributed by those interested in its objects, and many of the relics of the stone age from the mounds and graves in this county and from the excavations at other points are exhibited in its cases.

The Meadville Natural History Society was organized February 23, 1880, George B. Sennett, President, and H. R. Lorandi, Curator. Sections for the various branches—zoology, ornithology, entomology, paleontology, etc.—have been thoroughly organized, and from the interest manifested by its members, and the well-known enthusiasm and practical knowledge of its officers and heads of sections, we may expect a most valuable and perfect collection of all pertaining to the natural history of this part of the State. Generous donations and loan contributions by friends have already rendered the room of the society replete with interest.

The Meadville Art Society was organized March 11, 1880, with Prof. Samuel P. Bates as President. In its room it is intended to place casts from the most famous works of antiquity, and such works of the modern sculptor as the resources of the society will permit. Copies of noted paintings of the several schools of art, photographs and engravings of merit illustrating art progress, and such works of modern artists as may be donated or placed on exhibition by friends. Painting and sculpture may here be studied, and much is hoped from the influence on the present and future generations. Time and patience will be required before the art room will show its excellence, yet, through the generosity of friends, the donations and temporary loans have made the art room an attractive resort.

Last in the scheme of the Association is a course of lectures by the several departments upon topics connected with art, history, general literature and science. It is hoped that the evening entertainments will grow in favor and help to promote a public taste for literary pursuits. Such is the outline of

what has been and what is proposed to be accomplished by the "Meadville Library, Art and Historical Association." It may appear a great undertaking, but the plan has been successfully perfected, the rest is the work of time and patient effort. Those who have contributed liberally of money and time for this enterprise have done so without anticipation of return, other than the gratification of accomplishing a good work, which it is hoped will leave its impress on the present and future generations.

Parks.—When the town plat was remodeled in 1795, David Mead donated for public uses the piece of ground in the center of the city known as the Diamond. Through the passing years this has been carefully graded and handsomely ornamented with trees, a fountain and a band pagoda. At the Centennial celebration, July 4, 1876, a centennial oak was planted near the northeastern corner of the Diamond. The tree was planted under the auspices of the city, Hon. H. L. Richmond delivering the centennial oration, and Rev. Ammi B. Hyde, D.D., of Allegheny College, the address, at the planting ceremonies. This little park, though not a public resort, is one of the most beautiful spots in the city.

Huidekoper Park is a piece of forest land in the eastern portion of Meadville, containing about twelve acres. It was donated to the town in 1854, by the heirs of H. J. Huidekoper, Esq., for the purpose of a "Children's Park," and has since been used for public picnics and entertainments.

Island Park had its inception June 10, 1876, when L. C. Magaw, J. J. Shryock, R. C. Boileau, James E. McFarland, Alfred Huidekoper, A. C. Huidekoper, J. F. Dorrance, G. W. Delamater, James E. McFarland, Jr., William Reynolds, Sturges T. Dick and A. M. Fuller obtained a charter of incorporation as "The Island Park Company," with a capital stock of $10,000. This company purchased twenty-five acres of land on "the Island" lying between the old bed of French Creek and the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad, and rescued it from a morass. They laid out walks and driveways, constructed a fountain in the center of the park, built rustic bridges over the small branch, which winds through the northern portion of the grounds, bridged French Creek at the entrance on Water Street, where they also erected a gateway and lodge; flower-beds were laid out, lamps placed along the walks, a band-stand built and many other improvements made, which, together with the large number of natural forest trees soon rendered Island Park a very popular and pleasant resort. The enterprising gentlemen who projected and accomplished this work at an expense of about $15,000, set apart Thursday as "Park Day." The city band was engaged to play in the park every Thursday evening, and an admission fee of 2 cents for individuals and 25 cents for vehicles was finally adopted to defray the expense of music. From 1876 to 1882, inclusive, this programme was annually carried out through the summer season, though the company did not collect sufficient at the gate to pay expenses. The lack of enterprise exhibited by the majority of the more wealthy class of citizens in withholding their patronage, though willing to listen to the music from their carriages, which would line Water Street while the band concert was in progress, discouraged the management, and, since 1882, the enterprise has been abandoned. The owners then offered the park to the city on condition that it would be kept up as in the past, but the offer was not accepted. The park is now (1884) rented for a base-ball ground, though still patronized by many in their daily walks and drives, and adds much to the landscape beauty of the city.

Conclusion.—The principal business thoroughfares of Meadville are well paved and possess good sidewalks, while her merchants in every branch of

trade are enterprising and progressive. The most conspicuous business blocks in the city are the Delamater Block, erected in 1874–75; the new block erected in 1884, on the site of the Opera Block; Magaw Block, 1869; Corinthian Block, 1859–60; Shryock Block, 1873; Richmond Block, 1871; Dreutlein Block, 1877; Derickson Block, 1878; Porter Block, 1869; Peirson Block, 1874, and Crawford Block, 1877; all of which contribute to its solid architectural appearance. The lower portions of Meadville lying along French Creek are subject to periodical overflows, and the stream then spreads out over the adjacent low-lands, driving the inhabitants to the upper stories of their houses, and often destroying considerable property. Mill Run, too, sometimes leaps its banks, and carries destruction to perishable merchandise stored in the basements of business houses. The streets of Meadville cross each other at right angles, and most of them are embellished with shade trees. In the residence portion of the city the dwellings are conspicuous for their generous surroundings of lawn and grass-plat, and a general air of neatness and order, though in a few instances is observable that elegance of landscape and architectural adornment which only good taste and a lavish expenditure of money can secure. In nearly every part of Meadville, in the valley and on the beautiful hills which encircle it, will be found homes that compare favorably with those in the suburban sections of metropolitan cities.

CHAPTER VI.

CITY OF TITUSVILLE.

HISTORICAL—EARLY SETTLEMENTS—FIRST THINGS—LUMBERING INDUSTRY—DISCOVERY OF PETROLEUM—OIL COMPANIES ORGANIZED—OIL WELLS—REFINERIES—GREAT OIL FIRE—OIL EXCHANGE—INDUSTRIES.

TITUSVILLE, the first of many cities created and developed by the discovery and production of petroleum in their immediate vicinity, lies on the southern confines of Oil Creek Township, in the southeast corner of Crawford County. Its water-course is the world-famed Oil Creek, in the valley of which the city is located. The stream here sweeps along in an easterly direction close to the southern bluffs, which rise to an elevation of several hundred feet, still vestured in many places with primeval forest, and dotted here and there with cottages. The valley stretches northward from the creek to the distance of a mile or more, when it is again met by wooded hills. Nestling in this valley, with however ample scope for extension, the city with its broad, and regularly laid-out streets, lined with stately elms and maples, with its many handsome residences, its substantial business blocks and conspicuous public buildings, and with the bustling activity witnessed in its refineries and manufacturies, presents from the heights above an attractive, inviting appearance—one that betokens the wealth, enterprise and public spirit of its people.

The city has sprung up in a region not yet fully divested of its native covering, and within a few miles in every direction are found forests of hemlock, maple, pine, red and white oak, ash, cherry, hickory, birch, beech, elm, cucumber, bass, etc. Nearly all that part of the city lying west of Franklin Street was once the bed of a swamp, which by drainage has been rendered dry and

habitable. The population of Titusville in 1850 was 243; in 1860, 438; in 1870, 8,639; and in 1880, 9,046. The facilities for communication with the outside world are the main line of the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railroad and the Dunkirk, Allegheny Valley & Pittsburgh Railroad, of which Titusville is at present the terminus. Each of these roads has here a large brick passenger depot.

The original settlement made on the site of Titusville was the first in the eastern part of Crawford County. To Jonathan Titus and his uncle, Samuel Kerr, belongs the honor of being the first white occupants of the soil. They had been engaged in making surveys in Ohio, but noting the advantages of a settlement on Oil Creek, they determined to cast their lot in this locality. Accordingly they selected the best land they could find, Mr. Kerr choosing what is now the eastern part of the city, and Mr. Titus the western. The date of their permanent settlement was about 1796, and they came together from Frankstown, Blair Co., Penn. The cabin which Samuel Kerr erected in the wilderness stood near the western line of his land, east of Martin Street and south of Pine. He came to the western country unmarried, but afterward took a wife, and reared the following-named children: Andrew, James, Michael C., Marshall, Joseph, Joanna, Elizabeth and Amelia. James became an eminent attorney of Pittsburgh, Penn., where he died recently; Michael C. attained a national reputation, serving as Speaker of the House of Representatives. Samuel Kerr was an intelligent farmer, and remained on his farm through life.

Jonathan Titus, the founder of the city which now perpetuates his name, also came to Oil Creek Valley in a state of single blessedness. He erected a small, round-log cabin, daubed or chinked with mud, and containing but one apartment. It stood just south of Arch Street, opposite the Titusville City Mills, on Franklin Street. The Indians often visited him and slept in his cabin over night. In 1804 Mr. Titus married Miss May Martin, of Chambersburg, and at once brought his wife to their backwoods home. When he first came, he was obliged to go to Franklin to get his corn ground, and to Meadville and Erie for groceries. He remained a life-long resident of the place, and died February 2, 1857, leaving five children: Susan, wife of Joseph L. Chase; Sarah, wife of Edward H. Chase; Lavinia, wife of Parker McDowell, of Franklin; Olevia, wife of John Moore, of Pittsburgh; and Maxwell.

First Things.— The village was planned by Jonathan Titus in 1809, but it was many years before the place assumed the semblance of a town or even hamlet. During the first decade of the century much salt, flour and many other commodities were hauled in sleds between Pittsburgh and the upper Allegheny region, one of the routes being up Oil Creek Valley. The sled drivers carried with them provisions for themselves and horses, but were wont to lodge at the cabin of Jonathan Titus. At a later period, commencing about 1820, lumbering was carried on along the head-waters of Oil Creek and the lumber and logs were rafted during freshets down the streams to Pittsburgh, the lumbermen returning afoot. The cabin of Jonathan Titus was a regular place of stopping, and every night for weeks at a time, it was crowded with these rough frontiersmen on their return trips. It was not erected for a tavern but was large and roomy and could easily be adapted to the necessities of the times.

When Mr. Titus platted the village he designed to name it Edinburg, in honor of the city whence the mother of his wife had emigrated to this country, but for many years the place was known simply as "Titus's," to which the title "Titusville" succeeded. As the country was gradually filled up by settlers, roads became an imperative necessity, and it happened that two of the

earliest thoroughfares intersected at Titusville. One passed from north to south, where Franklin Street now is, the other from east to west in the vicinity of the present streets—Spring and Diamond. At the crossing of these roads, on what is now the southwest corner of Spring and Franklin Streets, Capt. William Sheffield, in 1816, opened the pioneer store. Mr. Sheffield had been a sea captain and emigrated to the wilds of western Pennsylvania from New Haven, Conn. He erected a mill in what is now Troy Township, and engaged actively in the lumber trade. The country store, which he opened at "Titus's" he placed in charge of Joseph L. Chase, son of Rev. Amos Chase, then recently arrived, and who afterward became a prominent citizen of Titusville. In a short time Joseph L. Chase became a partner in the store, and Capt. Sheffield retiring about 1820, the firm became Chase, Sill & Co. A little later the store was removed across the street to the northwest corner of Spring and Franklin and was conducted for many years by Joseph L. Chase & Co.

From 1820 to 1830 the place was an active trading point, and soon after the latter date the village began to attract a few settlers. Rev. Amos Chase had taken up his residence here but retired to Centerville in 1830. His parsonage stood on Main Street, east of Martin, but had to be removed when Main Street was opened for travel. Parker McDowell opened the second store, about 1832, on East Pine Street between Kerr and Drake, and L. F. Watson, now of Warren, Penn., was his clerk. About 1838, John Robinson, who had been a clerk in Chase's store, formed a partnership with Parker McDowell and they erected a new store building on the northeast corner of Pine and Franklin Streets, where now stands the Mansion House. Mr. Robinson soon after became sole owner. James Brawley and Thomas Keller, the first carpenters, came in prior to 1832. Thomas Stewart, the pioneer tailor, came about that time. Charles Gillett, the first blacksmith, came about 1832. Charles Day, also a blacksmith and the father-in-law of "John Brown, of Ossawatomie," settled here soon after. William Barnsdall, who is yet a resident of the city, came in 1833 and was the first shoe-maker. Dr. Isaac Kellogg was the first resident physician and, after a long and extensive practice, died at Titusville in 1841. Dr. Gillett, brother to the blacksmith, Drs. E. P. Banning, Orson, Kellogg and Heffron were other early practicing physicians in the backwoods village. The first hotel was erected in 1833 by Arthur Robinson, its first proprietor, on the site of the present Oil Exchange, Spring Street. Mr. Robinson afterward moved to Franklin, and his brother William succeeded to the proprietorship of the American Hotel, as it was known. This site was occupied as a public house until the recent building of the Oil Exchange. About 1835 a chair factory was started by Roswell C. Sexton on the east side of Franklin Street, south of and near Main.

Lumbering.—The eastern part of Crawford County and adjacent territory, throughout the region of Oil Creek Valley and its tributaries, was devoted largely to the lumbering business. Fine groves of pine and hemlock skirted these streams and the lumber commanded a fair price at Pittsburgh and at other points. Saw-mills sprang up in various places along the creeks, and the lumber turned out was rafted down Oil Creek and the Allegheny. For this upper lumber region Titusville became the chief trading point. It is located near the juncture of Pine with Oil Creek, and on both these streams the constant hum of the saw-mill was heard. The village itself contained no early saw-mill and no manufactories of note, but as a trading point and stopping place for lumbermen, it had, in 1850, attained a population of 243, which had increased considerably in 1859. In this latter year it contained two hotels, about half a dozen supply stores and a population of perhaps over 300.

Petroleum.—The discovery of oil in 1859 exerted a wonderful influence over the fortunes of the little village, transforming it almost instantly into a crowded city, bustling with intensest energy and activity. The presence of oil, however, was known to the earliest settlers, and by them was called Seneca oil. On the north banks of Oil Creek, within the limits of Titusville, were numerous pits, and the oil covered the surface of the water which collected in them. By saturating a flannel cloth with the oil and squeezing it into a vessel, small quantities could be obtained at any time. It was used to some extent for illuminating saw-mills, etc., by placing a quantity in a pan, thrusting in one end of a wick, and lighting the other extremity. It was also gathered for its medicinal virtues, which were, however, more highly prized at a distance than in the vicinity of Titusville. It was sent abroad in considerable quantities, and in 1853 George H. Bissell, of New York, saw at the office of Prof. Crosby, of Dartmouth College, a bottle filled with the substance, which had been sent to Prof. Crosby by Dr. Brewer of Titusville. Mr. Bissell at once became interested in the product, and six months later sent his partner, J. G. Eveleth, to Titusville, to investigate its possibilities. They purchased 100 acres of land, and leased 112 for ninety-nine years, for $5,000, situated on Oil Creek, in Venango County, about two and a half miles below Titusville. These were then thought to include the principal oil lands in this region. In 1854 Messrs. Bissell & Eveleth organized the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company, the first petroleum organization in the United States. They proceeded to develop the lands by trenching and raising the surface oil and water into vats. The supply obtained by this method was of course very limited. It was measured by the gallon and was purchased by parties who sold it for medicinal purposes, the producers obtaining as high a price as $1.50 per gallon for it. The work of trenching was continued until 1858, when the expediency of boring an artesian well was discussed, the success of similar wells for salt near Pittsburgh raising the question. It did not meet with general favor among the stockholders, and finally, after much discussion, a number of the members leased the lands, agreeing to pay the company a royalty of 12 cents per gallon on all oil obtained. The lessees organized the Seneca Oil Company at New Haven, and sent forward E. L. Drake, one of their number, with the necessary capital, to superintend and carry out the projected idea. Col. Drake arrived at Titusville in 1858. He purchased at Titusville twenty-five acres of land from Rev. Hampson, and commenced boring south of Titusville in Venango County. He drove down a pipe thirty-two feet and struck rock. After many delays and obstacles the workmen drilled thirty-seven feet six inches further through the rock, and reached the sand rock on the 28th day of August, 1857. On withdrawing the tools the foaming fluid rushed up to within a few inches of the top, and the well at once yielded twenty-five barrels of oil a day.

The result produced the greatest excitement; at first, however, confined to local limits; a number of firms were organized at once and began to pierce the earth in various localities for the precious fluid. Brewer, Watson & Co., obtained the second oil by pumping. Their well was also located in Venango County. Barnsdall, Mead & Rouse was the third firm to meet with success. Their well was the first in Crawford County and stood in the southeast part of Titusville, between Oil Creek and the Dunkirk, Allegheny Valley & Pittsburgh Railroad. The oil was struck in February, 1860, at a depth of 112 feet, and at first boiled over the top. It produced twenty-five barrels per day, and was operated successfully for several years.

The value of farms within the limits of the supposed oil district rose to

fabulous sums, and fortunes were made in a day. William Barnsdall sold one-half of his one-third interest in the first Crawford County well to William H. Abbott a few days before oil was struck for $10,000. The success of these first wells led to the sinking of many others within the borough and surrounding country. It was a slow process for a time, for tools were not perfected, and vexatious delays often impeded progress. These first producers were nearly all residents in this vicinity. The infection for boring spread rapidly, and farmers in the neighborhood moved into Titusville, leased an acre or less of land, and industriously set about to obtain a portion of the hitherto unsuspected, hidden wealth. The supply of oil became so great that there was no place to store it, and vast quantities were wasted. Barrels at once commanded a high premium, and their manufacture from green timber, for no seasoned lumber was at hand, suddenly became an important and profitable business. In these barrels the oil was shipped, but more than half was often lost by leakage. One of the first necessities in consequence of the oil production was transportation, and an army of laborers and teamsters were employed. The first transportation pipe was laid during the summer of 1863, from the Tarr Farm, on Oil Creek, to the Plumer Refinery on Cherry Run, three miles distant. The oil was driven by steam pumps over an elevation 400 feet above the creek. In 1864 the Harleys made the system general, and the work of the teamsters was ended.

Titusville became at once the center of interest. Knowledge of its wonderful treasures soon was widely spread, and attracted from every quarter men intent on fortune-making. The little village found its modest accommodations wholly inadequate to the demands of its incoming citizens. The work of building commenced with a vim, and an active city rose, as if by magic. Men could not wait for the construction of cellars or walls, but built their houses on blocks. It was not uncommon to see buildings far advanced toward completion, on lots which the day before had shown no signs of coming habitation. City lots commanded exorbitant prices, and for five years, or thereabouts, the building was uninterruptedly continued before a lull occurred. From 1862 to 1864 was the period when the oil excitement at Titusville reached its highest pitch. In 1865 the price of oil sank very low, and wild excitement then subsided. At one time oil was quoted at $12 per barrel, but owing to the immense flow of wells in Venango County, the price once sank to 12½ cents per barrel. In 1865, when the first calm came over Titusville, its population is believed to have been as great or greater than now. A large number of oil wells have been driven within the limits of Titusville and in adjacent territory, but most of them are now abandoned. Several small wells are still pumped in the city, yielding perhaps 500 barrels per month. The city is, however, the home of many of the heaviest operators and producers in the newer oil regions.

During the period of the greatest production, when fortunes came in a moment, money was as lavishly expended as it was quickly obtained. Commodities were all high, but labor was in proportion. There were times, it is said, with of course exaggeration, when almost any newsboy or bootblack could hand one the change for a $50 bill. Buildings were then constructed at treble the present cost. Yet many spacious, magnificent residences were erected. In 1865 the city afforded three public halls, the Bliss Opera House, Crittenden Hall and Corinthian Hall or the Academy of Music, and it was not uncommon for all three to be engaged by theatrical attractions the same night. In comparison with those flush times, the depression which ensued soon after seemed doubly severe. To a calmer state of prosperity the city has been compelled to adapt itself. The period of instantaneous wealth had passed in this

George Wilcox

Sarah Wilcox

vicinity, and fortunes had to be accumulated, not seized at one grasp, and though the business of the city is still largely that of the production, refining and commercial trade of petroleum, the monetary pulse is less feverish than in years agone. So rapidly did the city grow for a few years, that it outstripped public improvements, but since then it has been substantially built, and will now bear favorable comparison with sister cities.

It was not long after the discovery of oil that its refinement became the leading industry of Titusville. The first refining of petroleum is said to have been done by James McKeown and Samuel Kier, of Pittsburgh. The first refinery at Titusville was built by Parker, Abbott & Barnsdall about 1862. It was situated on the north bank of Oil Creek. Two grades of illuminating oil, the white and the common yellow, were produced. Benzine, tar, and other products which are now held valuable and utilized, were emptied into Oil Creek. This refinery was operated for several years. In 1864 Brice & Co. were operating a refinery and continued it until about 1866. The business increased rapidly, and in 1872 eleven refineries were in full blast. The number in 1875 was nine, when a business was transacted that was exceeded only by Cleveland. They were as follows: Easterly & Davis, organized in 1870, and refining 1,500 packages per week; Pickering, Chambers & Co., organized in 1868, and refining 2,400 packages per week; Porter, Moreland & Co., Acme Works, organized in 1867, and refining 6,500 packages per week; the Octave Oil Company, organized in 1872, refining 2,200 packages per week; R. H. Lee, organized in 1865, refining 1,000 packages per week; Caddam & Donohue, organized in 1865, refining 400 packages per week; John Jackson, organized in 1865, refining 600 packages per week; J. A. Scott, organized in 1868, refining 500 packages per week; Bennett, Warner & Co., organized in 1870, refining 3,000 packages per week.

There are now seven refineries at Titusville, owned by Rice, Robinson & Witherop, Schwartz & Co., the Oil Creek Refining Company and the Acme Oil Company. The refinery of Rice, Robinson & Witherop was established in 1874 by R. L. Rice and J. C. Robinson, and by them operated until 1880, when the present firm was composed by the admission of J. W. Witherop as partner. The works cover an area of five acres, situated on South Monroe Street near the railroads. This is the largest individual refinery in Titusville. It has a capacity of about 2,000 barrels of crude oil per week, and its products are 1,600 barrels of of illuminating and lubricating oils.

The Schwartz Brothers, operating under the name Crescent Refining Company, started their refinery in 1880, and have a capacity of about 800 barrels of crude oil per week. The works are located near the D., A. V. & P. R. R. depot.

The Oil Creek Refining Company is a recent institution, commencing operations in 1883. The works are located in the western part of the city, near Second Street and the B., N. Y. & P. R. R. They have a capacity of 800 barrels of oil per week. F. L. Woods is the manager.

The Acme Oil Company now controls and operates four refineries at Titusville, known as Acme No. 2, Acme No. 3, Acme No. 4 and the Keystone. This company was originally incorporated in the State of New York in 1875, and in October of that year commenced business at Titusville by the purchase of the Porter, Moreland & Co. Refinery, which was re-christened Acme No. 1, and the purchase of the Bennett, Warner & Co., re-named Acme No. 2. In 1876 the Octave Oil Company's works and the John Jackson Refinery were purchased, consolidated and named Acme No. 3. During the same year the refinery of Easterly & Davis was added to the company's works, and called

Acme No. 4. The Acme Oil Company as now constituted was incorporated under the laws of Ohio in 1879, superseding the company of the same name incorporated four years earlier in New York. The refinery of Pickering, Chambers & Co. was changed to the Keystone in 1876, and in May, 1883, was purchased by the Acme Oil Company. H. Y. Pickering is the present Manager of the works; C. W. Archbold, Secretary, and Frank Loomis, Treasurer. The capacity of the combined works is about 3,100 barrels of crude oil per week. From seventy-five to one hundred men are employed. Acme No. 1 was destroyed by fire and never rebuilt.

Great Oil Fire.—In the destruction of the Acme Refinery occurred one of the most terrific conflagrations that ever visited the oil regions. It was early on Friday morning, June 11, 1880, during a severe thunder-storm, that a flashing thunderbolt was seen to strike Tank 3, of the Tidioute & Titusville Pipe Line, situated on the peak of the south side hill, west of the foot of Perry Street. In an instant a dense volume of smoke and flame shot upward, and 20,000 barrels of oil were on fire. By 9 o'clock Tank 1, containing 17,000 barrels, ignited from the intense heat and exploded with a tremendous report. At noon, Tank 2, with 16,000 barrels of oil, burst forth with another thundering roar, and the oil in flaming torrents swept down to the creek. The fire extended to the Acme Oil Company's Works, No. 1, and as tank after tank exploded with deafening roars, hurled mountains of smoke and flame skyward and added to the general conflagration, Titusville appeared to the awe-stricken people a doomed city, and the citizens hurriedly removed their valuables from their dwellings, piled their furniture in the streets and prepared for the worst. Neighboring cities were appealed to for assistance, and with all possible dispatch the fire departments of Warren, Oil City, Franklin, Corry and Olean hastened to the relief. For three days the fire raged with undiminished fury, but the city was spared. The Acme Company was the greatest sufferer, losing $275,000. The Keystone Refinery and the Tidioute & Titusville Pipe Line also lost heavily. The Franklin and Perry Street iron-brace suspension bridges were both destroyed and many dwellings were consumed. Oil Creek was for days a boiling stream of fire, shooting great tongues of flame and destroying a vast amount of property along its course. It was probably the greatest danger that has ever threatened Titusville. Immense as the loss was, the preservation of the remainder of the city was almost miraculous.

Oil Exchange.—Titusville had the first oil exchange in the United States. It was organized as a private association January 14, 1871, with L. H. Smith, President; G. Shamburg, Vice-President; J. D. Archbold, Secretary, and J. F. Clark, Treasurer. Business was transacted in rented rooms until 1880, when the handsome structure, which is justly the pride of the city, was erected. The Titusville Oil Exchange was incorporated February 14, 1880, with a capital stock of $40,000, divided into $100 shares, for the purpose of erecting a building for the use of its members "in the business of buying, selling, transferring and trading in petroleum and its products, and business incident thereto," etc. The building erected is a handsome, three-story edifice of red brick, with sandstone trimmings, and fitted up with all modern conveniences. The main building is 75x100 feet, with a structure in the rear 60 feet square. Its cost was $60,000. The main portion is fitted up as offices. The Exchange proper is in the rear on the first floor, approached by a wide corridor, paved with encaustic tiles. It is 40x60 feet in dimensions, and 45 feet high, provided with a gallery of large seating capacity at the south end. The first officers of the chartered Exchange, elected in 1880, were: J. L. McKinney, President; H. F. Sweetser, Vice-President; J. A. Pincott, Secretary; A. P. Bennett, Treasurer.

Industries.—One of the earliest manufactories of Titusville was Robert's torpedo factory. In 1866 W. B. and E. A. L. Roberts commenced the manufacture of nitro-glycerine here, having secured patents in relation to its preparation for blasting purposes. At that time little was made in this country except samples prepared in drug stores. At present, from 500 to 600 tons are annually consumed in oil wells alone, and though the patents of Messrs. Roberts have recently expired, the firm still manufacture a large proportion of this dangerous invention. The factory where nitro-glycerine is produced is located about one and a half miles south of the city, but in Titusville the shells or cases to contain it are made.

The largest iron-works in the city are now owned and operated by the H. McKay Manufacturing Company. On the site of the shops, near the west end of Pine Street. Col. E. A. L. Roberts, about 1874, erected a building, now used as the store-room of the iron-works, for the manufacture of nitro-glycerine shells, their construction requiring iron machine work. He afterward enlarged the shops and manufactured boilers and other machinery until his death in 1881, in which year Foster & McKay became the owners and operated the works until May, 1883. After one or two changes in proprietorship, Hugh McKay, in August, 1883, purchased the works, and is the present owner. They occupy a plat of ground six or seven acres in extent, covered with numerous buildings, among which are the foundry and storehouse, 80x80 feet in dimensions; the boiler shop, 60x120; the machine shop and forge, 60x180; a store house, two stories in height, 30x200; another storehouse, 30x60, and various offices, sheds, etc. They are fitted with the latest improved machinery, and during the last year have employed from 100 to 150 men. The products of these works are portable and stationary steam engines and boilers, circular saw-mills and general machinery. A wrought iron furnace and steam forge are also attached to the works, and cranks and shaft forgings are manufactured in large quantities.

The Titusville Iron Works, located on the west side of South Franklin Street, is another important adjunct to the industries of the city. The shops were erected and started by McMullen & Bryan, in 1861, and after changing ownership a number of times, in 1877 came into possession of Ames & Keese, who in August, 1883, sold them to R. H. Boughton, Jr., and E. H. Ames, the present proprietors. The works occupy about two acres of ground and consist of the machine shop, 90x171 feet; boiler shop, 60x160; foundry, 64x149; blacksmith shop, 73x97; pattern shop, 20x44; and various offices. About ninety workmen now find employment here. Among the manufactures are boilers, engines, steam pumps, drilling tools and supplies for oil or artesian wells, etc.

The city also contains several iron works of lesser magnitude. The machine shop of J. Harris is a three-story frame, 40x50, located on East Spring, at the foot of Drake Street. Mr. Harris manufactures stationary boilers and engines of different sizes, from three to one hundred horse-power, for saw and grist-mills, and in addition has a general repair shop, and keeps on hand a general supply of iron fittings. His force at present consists of twelve workmen. The shop has been in operation for many years, and formerly employed a larger number of men.

The machine shop of Young & Locke is situated at 68 and 70 Franklin Street. The building is 100x180 feet in dimensions, and gives employment to about ten men. The proprietors conduct a general repair shop, and also deal extensively in second-hand machinery. In the oil regions, where operators are constantly retiring and arriving, this latter business has proved

quite important in relieving the retiring speculators of their machinery, and supplying it to those incoming. Bovaird & Seyfang, in 1873, started a repair machine-shop at the foot of Monroe Street. They removed it to the corner of Perry and Mechanic Streets, where, in 1877, the building was destroyed by fire. Resuming business on Franklin Street, they sold out in 1879 to Young & Locke, the present proprietors.

The Queen City Iron Company, composed of C. H. Smith, Edward Allen and Edward Thomas, has recently started a similar shop on the corner of Washington and Mechanic Streets. The shop was opened in September, 1883, and besides conducting a general repair shop and dealing in second-hand engines and boilers, the firm has commenced the manufacture of boilers. From eight to ten men are now employed.

The shops of the Joy Steam Heating Company are located on Perry Street, near the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railroad, and were erected in 1882. The company was organized in that year for the manufacture of the Joy steam and hot water heater, of which T. C. Joy is the inventor. The company has a capital stock of $20,000. Its President is T. C. Joy, and its Secretary L. B. Silliman. The Joy diamond direct radiator, and the gold pin indirect radiator, are also manufactured. Though yet in its infancy, this industry has been constantly growing, and the demand for its products is greater than the capacity to supply. About forty men are employed throughout the year. The machine-shop is a two-story building, 40x60; the foundry is also 40x60, with cupola annexed; the core room, containing two ovens, is of the same size; the storage room is 24x80, and the pattern room 16x20.

One of the industries which has only commenced in Titusville is the manufacture of furniture. Great forests of valuable timber are found within a few miles of the city, and their products are now beginning to be utilized. Three factories have sprung into existence in little more than a year, and are already doing an extensive business.

The Titusville Furniture Company, limited, with a paid-up capital of $10,000, commenced doing business in the summer of 1882. The shops are located on Pine Street, between Perry and Washington. They are controlled by a board of seven managers, and superintended by F. O. Swedborg. From twenty-five to thirty men are employed. A general line of chamber suits and other furniture from the native timber are manufactured.

The Union Furniture Company, limited, has a cash capital of $8,000. It was started in October, 1883, and employs about twenty men. Junius Harris is President of the Board of Managers, and D. O. Wickham Treasurer. C. P. Casperson is Superintendent of the works, which are situated on the B., N. Y. & P. Railroad, opposite the passenger depot. The manufacture of extension tables from ash, oak, cherry and maple is made the specialty of these works.

The Titusville Bedstead Works, limited, was organized in the autumn of 1883, and within several months two frame buildings, one 40x80 feet, the other 30x60 feet, both two stories in height, were erected on the corner of Caldwell and Spring Streets, in the eastern part of the city. The paid-up capital stock is $10,000, and the Board of Managers consists of David Emery, Chairman; B. F. Edwards, Treasurer; E. T. Hall, J. R. Barber, J. H. Dingman, D. O. Wickham and W. J. Booth. W. S. Fortney is Superintendent of the works, which were started early in 1884, and employ about forty workmen. Chief attention is paid to the manufacture of bedsteads from the timber native to this locality.

The works of the Acme Extract Company are located in the eastern part of

the city. They were erected in the spring of 1883. The members of the company, of which Howard Garrett is President, are residents of Wilmington, Del., and before the erection of the present works had conducted the same business in Lycoming County. The capital stock is $40,000. S. N. Iredell is Superintendent. The main building is 120x60 feet, with three wings, 50x50, 40x60, and 20x32, attached. The product of the works is bark extract for the use of tanners and dyers. Only hemlock bark is used in its preparation, immense quantities of which may be obtained in this region. Its juices are extracted, then evaporated to the required strength. The capacity of the works is 125 barrels of extract weekly. It has a wide market, reaching Boston, Philadelphia, New York, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and even England. Twenty-two men are now employed in the works, while employment is given indirectly to many others.

The Titusville Chemical Works are located in Oil Creek Township, just west of the city limits, but deserve mention in connection with its manufactures. The works were started in 1871 by Renny, Roberts & Dunn, who were succeeded a year later by the Titusville Chemical Works. The concern was purchased about 1874 by the Titusville Chemical Company, officered by D. M. Marsh, President; C. A. Grasseli, Treasurer; and J. H. Mansfield, Secretary, all of Cleveland, Ohio, where the chief office is situated. The works are devoted to the production of sulphuric acid and ammonia. They are located on a lot of ten acres and consist of two buildings—one 32x200 feet, containing the burners and chambers; the other is the still house, connected with the former by a condensing pipe. The still is of platinum, and though only three feet in diameter cost $14,000. The works are constantly run at their utmost capacity. This company also operates an establishment for the restoration of spent acids, at Boughton, a few miles south of Titusville.

The Titusville City Mills, located on Franklin Street, and owned and operated by John Eason, was erected in 1850 by Dr. Sherman F. Garfield. Pier & Bucklin were soon after operating it, and after changing hands several times the mill came into the possession of Breed & Hancox, from whom it was purchased by the present proprietor in 1870. The mill is 40x90 feet in size, and three stories in height, the third having been added by Mr. Eason. It is run exclusively by water-power, provided by four turbine wheels. It contains five run of stone, and has a capacity of 100 barrels per day. A feed-mill is also attached.

There are also a number of other manufactories in the city, among them the carriage factory of Castle & Co., whose establishment at 28 Pine Street is 30x180 feet in dimensions and two stories in height. The firm commenced business in 1866, and employs from ten to twenty-two men. The planing-mill and sash factory of J. J. Sutter & Son was started about 1878, and has been successfully conducted ever since.

The industries of Titusville in the past have been almost wholly such as are demanded in an oil-producing and refining country, but of later years they have become more general in character, and are giving to the city a stability independent of its famed oil products.

CHAPTER VII.

INCORPORATION—CITY HALL—WATER WORKS—GAS AND WATER COMPANY—FIRE COMPANIES—SEWERS—BANKING—LIBRARY ASSOCIATION—AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION—THE PRESS—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—CEMETERIES—SOCIETIES—MISCELLANEOUS.

TITUSVILLE was incorporated as a borough, by act of Assembly, which was approved by the Governor March 6, 1847. William Robinson, John M. Titus and Salmon S. Bates were by the act appointed Commissioners to define the boundaries of the proposed borough, and the electors were directed to meet and hold the first election for officers on the following third Friday of March. There is no record of an election in March, 1847, and it is probable that no officers were elected until March, 1848, when Joseph L. Chase was elected Burgess and S. S. Bates, William Barnsdall, James R. Kerr and G. C. Petti Council. The first meeting of the Council was held April 1, 1848, when Robert L. Robinson was appointed Clerk and E. H. Chase, Treasurer. There is no further record of officers elected until 1851, and since then the Burgesses elected have been as follows: Jonathan Titus, 1851; Samuel Silliman, 1852; A. B. Hubbard, 1853; J. M. Allen, 1854; James Parker, 1856; J. L. Chase, 1857–59; Z. Wade, 1860; John Moore, 1861; N. Kingsland, 1862; O. K. Howe, 1863; F. W. Ames, 1864–65; J. N. Angier, 1866.

The act to incorporate Titusville as a city was approved by Gov. Andrew G. Curtin, February 28, 1866, and in the spring of that year the city was organized by the election of Joel N. Angier, Mayor, and the following Council: First Ward, J. H. Bunting and George Custar; Second Ward, Thomas Goodwin and H. B. Ostrom; Third Ward, A. W. Coburn and R. D. Fletcher; Fourth Ward, W. W. Bloss and J. J. McCrum. Mr. Angier was re-elected Mayor in 1867; his successors have been Henry Hinkley, 1868–69; Frederick Bates, 1870–71; W. B. Roberts, 1872; John Fertig, 1873–74–75; David H. Mitchell, 1876, David Emery, 1877.

By ordinance of December 17, 1877, the Council accepted the new charter under the laws of the State. It went into effect in the spring of 1878, when the following Select Council was elected: First Ward, E. O. Emerson; Second Ward, G. C. Hyde; Third Ward, E. W. Watson: Fourth Ward, John Lee. The Common Council elected at the same time consisted of the following: First Ward, H. S. Bates, Junius Harris and E. C. Hoag; Second Ward, James H. Davis, N. Crossman, J. D. Angier and L. B. Silliman; Third Ward, John J. Carter and Thomas Goodwin; Fourth Ward, Joseph J. McCrum, Timothy Lynch and Joseph Hoenig. By this charter the term of the Mayoralty was made biennal. William Barnsdale was elected Mayor in 1878; A. N. Perrin in 1880, and James H. Caldwell in 1882.

The City Hall, located on the west side of Franklin between Pine and Main Streets, was erected for a private residence about 1862, by N. Kingsland. It changed ownership several times, was occupied for a time as a hotel, and was then purchased by the city. It is a large, substantial frame edifice, with massive Corinthian columns in the front, and on the first floor contains the Council room and the offices of the Comptroller and City Clerk; on the second floor the offices of the Mayor, Superintendent of Schools and Treasurer.

Water Works.—The city is provided with the Holly automatic system of water-works, owned and maintained by the city. The work of their construction was commenced in 1872, but it was not until 1875 that they were wholly completed, at a cost of $141,000. The engines are located about one mile and a quarter west of the City Hall. The water is pure and clear, and pumped from two wells, twenty-two feet deep and eighteen feet in diameter, directly into the mains, where it is kept at a pressure of forty-five pounds, which can, if necessary, be increased to eighty pounds. The works are supplied with a rotary engine to increase the pressure in case of fire. The capacity of the pumps is 2,000,000 gallons daily. At the present time the department has nine miles of pipe, sixty-nine fire hydrants, and supplies 759 consumers at a cost considerably lower than in the majority of cities, but the income thereby derived is more than sufficient to meet the running expenses of the department.

The Titusville Gas & Water Company was chartered in 1865 with a capital stock of $75,000. Although "water" is included in its charter, the company has nothing to do with the water department. The construction of the gas works was at once commenced and completed in 1866. At present the works include a tank of 100,000 cubic feet capacity, ten retorts or two benches of five retorts each, and about seven miles of pipe. Three hundred consumers are supplied and seventy-nine street lamps lighted.

Fire Companies.—In 1865 a volunteer fire company was organized, which was speedily equipped with hand engine and hose cart. Barney Bosch was its Foreman. In 1866 a second-hand engine was purchased and a hook and ladder truck arrived about the same time, all paid for by private subscription. The Titusville Fire Department was organized under the control of the city May 13, 1867, with Thomas Goodwin, Chief Engineer; D. Reagan, First Assistant; W. J. Stevens, Second Assistant; B. Bosch, Foreman of Engine Company No. 1; James Reardon, Foreman of Engine Company No. 2, and J. W. Morrison, Foreman of the hook and ladder company. Within a few years three steamers were purchased, two of which, the "City of Titusville" and the "Amoskeag," are still owned by the city. The department was composed of volunteers until April, 1882, when it was made a paid department, the force consisting of three fully paid men, and nineteen "minute" men, who pursue their usual avocations during the day, but remain under the immediate control of the fire department. Augustus Castle, the present Chief Engineer, has occupied that position for six years. Besides the two steam engines the department possesses two hose carriages and a fully equipped hook and ladder truck. One of the two engine houses is located on Franklin Street; the other on the corner of Pine and Monroe.

Sewers.—In 1871 the laying of an extensive system of sewerage was commenced and has since continued until now nearly three miles of sewer mains underlie the main streets. There are two large main sewers of brick and lateral sewers of the best vitrified pipe leading to the same, with catch-basins at necessary points for surface drainage. The system is extended as occasion requires.

Banking.—The monetary business of the city is great, as the five banking institutions, having a total capital of $1,150,000, will indicate. They are as follows: Second National Bank, established in 1865, capital $300,000, Charles Hyde, President; Roberts & Son, private bankers, established in 1872, $100,000 capital, W. D. and E. T. Roberts; Commercial Bank, capital $150,000, John L. McKinney, President; Hyde National Bank, established in 1880, capital $500,000, Charles Hyde, President; Roberts National Bank, established in January, 1883, capital $100,000, W. D. Roberts, President.

The Titusville Library Association was organized in 1876. Its first officers were: B. D. Benson, President; Roger Sherman, Secretary; J. A. Mill, Treasurer. The library fund was created and the first purchase of a library accomplished by the contribution of $100 each from thirty individuals. Current expenses have since been met and accessions to the library made through the generous subscriptions of its friends, and the purchase of annual library tickets at $2 each. The library now contains 4,200 volumes. A free-reading room, where the leading periodicals may be found, is a valuable adjunct to the library. Since its formation William J. Carpenter has been Librarian.

Oil Creek Valley Agricultural Association was organized and held its first fair in the autumn of 1875. The fairs have recurred annually ever since, with increasing attendance and success. The spacious grounds are situated just without the city limits on the northwest.

Press.—The first paper of the city was the one of which the present *Herald* is the direct successor. It was started by James B. Burchfield, who had been proprietor of the *Pennsylvania Sentinel*, published at Meadville. This latter paper expired in 1859, and Mr. Burchfield in the same year, directly after the oil excitement had been aroused, removed his printing supplies to Titusville, and launched into being the *Petroleum Reporter and Oil Creek Gazette*. It was continued as a weekly, somewhat irregularly issued, for several years, and came into possession of A. M. Fuller. In 1864 it was purchased by Lake & Martin, who continued its publication until June, 1865, when they sold it to Bloss Brothers. These proprietors changed the name to the *Herald*, and at once commenced the publication of the daily *Herald*, the first daily issued in te oil regions, and which has been successfully continued since. In September, 1865, J. H. Cogswell was admitted a partner, the firm name becoming Bloss Brothers & Cogswell. In June, 1872, W. W. Bloss retired and Bloss & Cogswell continued the publication until July 1, 1883, when Mr. Cogswell also retired, leaving Henry C. Bloss sole publisher. The paper has since been conducted under his management. It is Republican in politics and an able exponent of the interests of Titusville.

The *Sunday World* began its career under that title March 1, 1882. Its origin was the *Sunday Newsletter*, which was started in 1880 by J. W. Graham and E. W. Hoag, and in 1881 purchased by the World Publishing Company. This latter company had, June 15, 1880, begun the publication of the *Petroleum Daily World*, under the management of J. M. Place and the editorship of R. W. Crisswell. It was designed to be published in the interests of the oil producers, as against the oil monopoly, and for that purpose the World Publishing Company had been organized. A large investment was made in the establishment. An able corps of editors were engaged at high salaries, and during its brief career of eighteen months an excellent newspaper was produced. The field, however, proved too limited to support a paper of this magnitude, and after its financial failure was no longer doubtful its publication ceased. Henry Byron had become manager in December, 1880, and S. L. Williams editor. About six months later George E. Mapes succeeded Mr. Byron, and continued in charge till the *Daily World* suspended, January 1, 1882. The *Weekly World* was continued until March 1, 1882, when it was purchased by Frank W. Truesdell & Co. Mr. Truesdell has since remained its editor. The *Sunday World* is independent in politics, and is an ably conducted and well supported paper.

Quite a number of other newspaper ventures have been made during the past twenty years, but all have in time met the fate of most similar enterprises. Probably the one of longest continuance was the Titusville *Daily Courier*. It

was started by a stock company with a large capital in 1870, with J. T. Henry as editor. The paper afterward passed into the hands of M. N. Allen, who conducted it until 1876, when it was purchased by the *Herald*. Its politics were Democratic. The *Star* was a daily campaign sheet published in 1865 by J. B. Close and O. B. Lake. The *Daily Journal* was afterward published for a brief season by J. B. Close. The *Morning Star*, edited and published by W. C. Plummer; the *Long Roll*, edited by N. C. Allen; and the *Daily Press*, an evening paper started in 1872 by W. W. Bloss, were fitful gleams in the past, across the journalistic horizon of Titusville.

Schools.—If in one respect above others Titusville can claim pre-eminence, it is in the excellence of its schools. During the period of its most rapid growth the schools could not keep even pace, but since the city has had time to take breath, look around and realize the need of superior educational advantages, attention, equal to its importance, has been given the matter, and as a result a high grade of proficiency has been attained in the schools.

The first school building known to have existed on the site of Titusville was a modest log structure, erected in 1817, on the south side of Oil Creek, west of Franklin Street, and near Trout Run. It was attended by pupils, several of whom came a distance of five miles. Mr. Wylie was the first teacher, and during his term he died from sudden sickness. Charles Plum, a well-educated and competent instructor, from Littlefield, Conn., and Joseph L. Chase, a well-known early merchant of Titusville, were also teachers here.

Schoolhouses in those times were erected with but little labor and scarcely any expense. By securing the united labor of a community a single day would suffice, under the merry music of their axes, to complete a school cabin. Consequently buildings were erected wherever and whenever a school was desired, if none suitable was at hand. In 1820 a schoolhouse was built just north of the city limits on the Kelly Farm. Daniel Jones, from Susquehanna County, and William Kelly, from Ireland, were teachers in this school. The latter, an early settler near Titusville, was a scrivener and an excellent penman.

The year 1823 witnessed the erection of a third schoolhouse in the vicinity of Titusville. It stood near the cemetery in West Titusville, and was taught by William Kelly and others.

The old log Presbyterian Church, erected in 1815, at the head of Franklin Street, was used for several years as a school. Miss Sarah Titus taught here in 1830, as did also William Martin, a civil engineer, who made the original plat of Titusville. The frame Presbyterian Church, built in 1833, was also used as a school for several years, and among the preceptors who held sway here was Joseph Nourse. Miss Maria Tripgay, from Norway, taught a school at the home of her parents on the northwest corner of Spring and Washington Streets in 1834. Several other private schools were held about the same time.

The place was beginning to assume the appearance of a little village, and the necessity of a public school building was felt. Accordingly Jonathan Titus donated a lot near the southeast corner of Pine and Perry Streets, Joseph L. Chase and others contributed materials, and a large frame building containing one apartment was erected in 1837. This school was supported partly by tax and partly by subscription. Its teacher in 1839 was William Sweatland, who was an excellent teacher and an indefatigable worker. The number of scholars were from 100 to 120. Besides two lengthy sessions during the day he held a night school for the benefit of the older pupils. Each evening would be devoted exclusively to one branch. School was also held Saturdays, and on each alternate Saturday a half holiday was given. Aspinwall Cornwall was the teacher in 1841. He was a skillful instructor, a resident of

Venango County, where he died recently. Moses Porter, who settled at Pleasantville, Venango County, taught in 1842 and in 1843. During the next three years Edwin P. Byles, also from Allegheny Township, Venango County, taught the schools. In 1847 Hon. M. C. Beebe, of Pleasantville, was the teacher. The schoolhouse continued to be used until 1859. During the summer months the school was taught by women, prominent among whom were Misses Eliza Morse, Mary Miller and Elizabeth Watson. Among the earliest School Directors after Titusville became a borough in 1847 were: E. P. Banning and S. S. Bates, Joseph L. and Edward H. Chase, John and Robert L. Robinson, William Barnsdall, F. B. Bruer, Charles Kellogg, R. C. Sexton, Col. James K. Kerr and William Robinson.

During this period private schools were also occasionally held. In 1836 Cornelius Byles, brother of Edwin P., taught one on the southeast corner of Spring and Perry Streets. Another was held in 1842, on the site of the late Parshall's Opera House. About 1854 Rev. Bailey opened a private school in a house on Union Street, in which he taught some of the higher branches. The school was maintained for nearly three years.

The old schoolhouse having stood service for over twenty years, and becoming too limited to accommodate the school population, in 1859 a two-story frame building was erected on the southeast corner of Main and Washington Streets. The population of the city began to increase rapidly soon after, and in the summer of 1863 an addition of two rooms was made to the building at a cost of $2,700. This remained the only school building, and in January, 1866, a boy playfully dropped a lighted match into a hole in the wall and the building was soon in ashes.

The Directors decided, in view of the constantly increasing demands for more room, to erect on the same site a two-story frame building containing eight rooms, at a total cost, including furniture, of $18,000. There was however little money in the treasury, the tax duplicate was small, and it seemed impossible to immediately proceed with the work. At this juncture Col. F. W. Ames, one of the Directors, offered to furnish the necessary material and money. His offer was accepted, the money paid and the building constructed. Nearly two years elapsed before Mr. Ames was paid the whole of the money advanced by him. The schoolhouse was opened for use in the fall of 1866 and was immediately filled to its utmost capacity. For a number of years there was a constant demand for additional room, a demand so great that it could scarcely be met. In 1868 an extra room on Pine Street was temporarily engaged. In 1869 two more rooms were hired in the basement of the Baptist Church. In 1870 the erection of a large brick schoolhouse was commenced at the northeast corner of Walnut and Drake Streets. Its total cost, including furniture and heating apparatus, was about $35,000. It contained eight rooms, and when opened for occupancy in April, 1871, was at once filled with pupils. In 1872, under an imperative demand for increased school facilities, a frame building of two rooms was erected in the Fourth Ward, between Superior and George Streets and nearly opposite Euclid. In 1874 a room was added to it, and in 1875 another, making it now a building of four rooms. In 1873 a brick structure of six rooms was built on the southeast corner of Elm and Third Streets at a total cost of about $18,000. In 1876 an extension containing three rooms was added, and one of the large halls was partitioned off and converted into a school room, making ten rooms in all in this building. These four school buildings are now used to their utmost capacity, twenty-six rooms.

For a time the schools were imperfectly graded, and the Directors decided to introduce higher branches into the course of study and to establish a high

school. Accordingly, in course of time, a high school department was organized with an enrollment of ninety-five pupils. Prof. William Stewart was Principal for about five years, and in 1869 was succeeded by H. C. Bosley. In 1871, the population being sufficient to bring the city within the provisions of the law, Prof. Bosley was elected City Superintendent of the Schools. He was re-elected in 1872 and again in 1875. Prof. H. H. Hough, his successor, was elected in 1878, but closed his services a year later, when Prof. R. M. Streeter was elected and has since filled the position.

Titusville became a separate school district by its erection into a city in 1866. The first Board of Directors, elected that year, consisted of Thomas Smith and James P. Burtis, First Ward; O. K. Howe and F. W. Ames, Second Ward; George C. Bartlett and E. H. Chase, Third Ward; J. F. Chesshire and J. J. Sutter, Fourth Ward. E. H. Chase resigned June 30, 1866, and James R. Barber was appointed in his stead. J. F. Chesshire resigned January 4, 1877, and E. C. Bishop was appointed to the vacancy. The Board at present consists of eight members, and has as its President Frederick Bates, and for Secretary Isaac Westheimmer.

From the report of the State Superintendent it may be seen that the schools of Titusville stand among the highest in the State. The course embraces eleven years, and since 1871, large classes have graduated from the high school each year. The schools are supplied with all modern improvements, appliances and apparatus, and the high salaries paid instructors has secured the best educational talent. Special teachers in music and in drawing have developed these branches in the schools to an extent that has elicited general surprise and satisfaction, and placed the schools in these respects far above most schools in the State. The total enrollment of pupils for the year ending June, 1883, was 1,771.

Several private institutions of learning are also found at Titusville, which contribute largely to its educational advantages. Rev. Napoleon Mignault has for years conducted an academy which has prepared many pupils for entering college.

St. Joseph's Convent of Mercy is an imposing brick structure, situated on Main Street, west of First. It was erected in 1870, the Sisters of Mercy, who own and control the school, coming in that year from Pittsburgh. Mother Superior Nolasco had charge of the schools until her death in September, 1872, and since then Mother Celestine has had the management most of the time. In the academy, boarding-school and day school combined, are now about 350 pupils. There had formerly been a yearly attendance of nearly 600. The academy prepares young men for college, the boarding school graduates young ladies in a prescribed course of study, and the day school instructs the youth in the common branches. Many additions have been made to the building since its erection, and it is now the home of seventeen Sisters of Mercy, ten of whom are teachers.

In 1881 Prof. H. C. Clark established a commercial college in the Commercial Block, Diamond Street, opposite the postoffice. Four rooms, each 30x50 feet, are occupied. In addition to full instruction in the commercial branches, telegraphy and stenography are taught. Four teachers are engaged and the school is eminently successful. It has recently come under the management of Profs. Obert and Pettis.

Churches.—Prior to the discovery of oil in 1859 there had been three religious organizations in Titusville: Presbyterian, Methodist and Universalist. The former two still exist; the last has succumbed to adverse circumstances, and dissolved. The Presbyterian is the pioneer congregation, and for the

greater part of the following information concerning it credit is due to Elder Samuel Minor. The first settlers on the site of the city were members of this faith, and as early as 1803 requests were sent to the Presbytery of Erie for supplies. In 1809 "Oil Creek," or "Titus's," by both of which names the settlement was known, was reported able to pay for its occasional preaching, and in that year, so far as can be traced, the first communion was held by Rev. Richard Stockton, of Meadville, and Rev. Samuel Tait, of Cool Spring, Mercer County, in a log barn of Jonathan Titus, standing near the present Fletcher Block, on the east side of Franklin, between Pine and Spring Streets. The names of those who participated, as preserved by recollection, were Mrs. Mary, wife of Jonathan Titus; Mrs. Mary, wife of James Kerr; Andrew Kerr and his wife Elizabeth; James Kerr and his sister, Mrs. Brown, a widow; Mrs. William Curry, and James Curry and his wife Hannah. Communions and services were maintained by the constantly increasing little band, and in 1815 a permanent church organization was effected with a membership of forty, some of whom lived twelve or fifteen miles distant, by Rev. Amos Chase. For eleven years this venerable pioneer minister labored as a missionary in portions of Warren, Venango and Crawford Counties, including Titusville, and in 1826 he accepted a call to preach at Oil Creek one-half of his time, and one-fourth at Centreville, leaving the remaining one-fourth for his favorite missionary work. This relation continued till 1830, when, at the age of seventy years, Rev. Chase retired to Centreville. The next regular pastor, Rev. George W. Hampson, began his labors September 1, 1830, and was settled in due form June 27, 1832. He continued his ministry twenty-two years and six months, or until March 1, 1853. Between that date and 1858 there was a vacancy in the pulpit most of the time. Rev. Ottinger preached one year and Rev. Montgomery eighteen months.

The members becoming scattered, services were irregularly held, and the congregation was in danger of complete dissolution. Rev. George H. Hammer was called July 1, 1858, and he and the two Elders, William Kelley and Caleb M. Allen, called a church meeting, held October 31 of that year, at which the congregation was reorganized with twenty-eight members. In the fall of 1861 Rev. Hammer resigned to take charge of a cavalry company enlisted in this county for service. His successors to the ministry of Titusville Church have been: Rev. Samuel Wykoff, from 1861 to 1863; Rev. W. C. Curtis, 1863 to May 15, 1865; Rev. William H. Taylor, November 2, 1865, to 1869; Rev. Alexander Sinclair, November 13, 1869, to May 18, 1874; Rev. Robert Sloss, January 17, 1875, to 1877; Rev. William Chichester, 1878 to March, 1880, followed by Rev. J. L. Maxwell, the present pastor, who was installed in April, 1881. From 1819 to 1823 the pastor's salary was from $80 to $100 per year for one-half his time; in 1826, $50 for half his time; in 1832, $200 for two-thirds of his time and in 1846, $350 for the same; in 1858, it was $600 for the whole time; in 1863, it fell back to $400; in 1864, it was made $800; in 1865, $2,000, and in 1869, $3,000. For 1871 and 1872 there was an appropriation of $1,000 additional each year. Early salaries were made payable in commodities, and in 1827 the prices voted were: wheat, $1 per bushel; rye, 50 cents; corn, 62½ cents; oats, 25 cents; buckwheat, 37½ cents; bacon, 8 cents per pound. In the division of the Presbyterian Church in 1837, this congregation went with the New School branch, and so continued until the branches were re-united in 1870. The membership in 1868 was 136; in 1872, 236; in 1876, 365, and at present is about the same.

The first preaching was in private houses, schoolhouses and groves. About 1812 a small round-log meeting-house was erected just east of the old cemetery,

at the head of Franklin Street. It was used for some time, but never entirely finished. A short distance west of it a hewed-log church was commenced in 1815, but not wholly completed until 1823. A resolution to build a frame church was passed March 31, 1832; the corner-stone was laid July 4, 1833, and in that or the following year the building was dedicated by Rev. Nathaniel West. It was not fully completed, however, until 1837. Its cost was $1,500, and it stood directly at the head of Franklin Street on the site of the present German Reformed Church, and west of the old log church. It was a large building with arched ceiling and supporting pillars, and the only religious edifice for many miles around. The people attended from great distances, traveling horseback and bringing with them dinner, services being held both in the forenoon and afternoon. The ground for this church was donated by Jonathan Titus. The building and part of the lot were sold in 1863 for $1,000, and the same year the lot on the southeast corner of Walnut and Franklin Streets was purchased for $1,100, and a handsome church building on it was finished in 1865 at a cost of $17,000. Additional permanent improvements, exclusive of repairs, have cost about $4,000. The parsonage, nearly opposite the church building, came into possession of the church in 1870.

The Universalist Church had a frame building erected on Lot 65, on the north side of Pine Street, between Franklin and Martin, about 1844. The congregation had been organized a short time before, and was supplied by Rev. Shipman and others. This early meeting-house, after Titusville received its sudden impetus to growth, was called into requisition by various denominations, and in 1865 the Universalist congregation erected a large, handsome brick structure at the southeast corner of Main and Perry Streets, wherein services were held until 1879, when Rev. Charles E. Tucker, the last minister, closed his pastorate. Loss of membership had reduced the society until it became too weak to longer maintain an organization.

Methodist Church.—Meetings of this denomination were occasionally held in the vicinity of Titusville as early as 1805, and after the village of Titusville had existence a class of Methodists, too feeble numerically to erect a house of worship, met for services in the schoolhouse. In October, 1860, a class of fifteen members, most of whom were women, was reorganized, with James H. Davis as class-leader. Titusville Circuit had been formed in 1857. Its pastors have been: N. W. Jones, 1857–58; W. Hayes, 1859; J. C. Scofield, 1861–62; D. M. Stever, 1863; T. Stubbs, 1864–65; N. G. Luke, 1866–67; W. P. Bignell, 1868–69–70; D. C. Osborne, 1871–72; A. N. Craft, 1873–74–75; J. N. Fradenburgh, 1876–77; W. W. Painter, 1878–79; W. F. Day, 1880–81–82; J. N. Fradenburgh, 1883. In 1860 it was a four weeks circuit, embracing Titusville, Hydetown, Riceville, Centreville, Spartansburg, Bethel and Chapman's. In 1861 the circuit was reduced to two appointments, Titusville and Bethel, situated five miles north of the city. In 1864, under the first appointment of Rev. Stubbs, Titusville became and has since remained a station. Services in 1860 were held in the Pine Street Universalist Church, then in the old Presbyterian Church at the head of Franklin Street. Lots 85 and 86, on the northwest corner of Pine and Perry Streets, were purchased, and a frame house of worship, 40x93, was commenced in 1863. It was first occupied in February, 1864, and was dedicated in November of that year. Its cost, including the parsonage, which had been erected on the same lot in 1861, was about $16,000. This building was surmounted with the first church bell in Titusville, which was purchased by subscription, and its deep, resonant tones, calling to service, the first Sabbath morning, fell with singular effect upon the

ears of the inhabitants of the rising city. Many had been so deeply absorbed in the rush of business for several years that churches were wholly forgotten, but the tolling of the bell brought back vividly the recollection of their former lives. One butcher, who had at first refused to subscribe, after hearing it went to the purchasing committee and presented $10, with the remark, that "he had not known how far he had got from civilization until he heard its sound." Among those who contributed liberally to the erection of the church, were: J. H. Davis, J. M. Wilcox, Charles and James Burtis, John Brown, and others. The full membership of the society in 1883 was 368.

The period of the city's rapid growth, from 1860 to 1865, witnessed also a great increase both in the number and in the membership of religious organizations. During that period five congregations, which are yet strong and flourishing, were formed. Four others have since been added, making the number at present eleven congregations.

St. James Memorial Church, Protestant Episcopal, was organized as a mission in June, 1863, by Rev. Henry Purdon, the first and present rector, with a small membership, composed exclusively of women. Rev. Purdon held his first service here June 8, 1862, but a year elapsed before the congregation was organized. Through the efforts of W. H. Abbott, George M. Mowbray, Col. E. N. Drake, and other early friends of the church, a handsome building was erected soon after. Its corner-stone was laid in September, 1863, by Bishop Stevens, of Philadelphia, and it was consecrated in October, 1864, by Bishop Alonzo Porter. The edifice is a fine, gothic, stone structure, which, with improvements since made, cost about $20,000. It is located on the northeast corner of Franklin and Main Streets. In 1865 a brick chapel was erected on the same lot, at a cost of $8,000, and in 1868 a rectory, at a cost of $5,000. Dr. Purdon has now been pastor for twenty-one years, and has in his care a congregation which numbers about 100 members.

St. Paul's German Reformed Church was organized about 1862, and the society soon after purchased the old Universalist Church, on Pine Street, at a cost of $1,500. The original class numbered about fifteen, and among the early prominent members, were: George Reuting, Henry Eba, Reinhart Miller, John Roekart, Charles Bruell and Martin Lutz. Rev. D. T. Leaberman was the first minister, and remained in charge about a year. His successors have been: Revs. Ebbenhaus, Koehler, Poerner, George Meselsty, John Fuendeling, J. F. Graf, J. H. Eberle and John Roesch. The last named is the present pastor, and commenced his labors here in February, 1882. In 1872 the present frame church, 40x70, at the head of Franklin Street, was erected at a cost of about $12,000. The lot cost $4,500, and including the erection of the parsonage, the total expense was swelled to $18,000. Soon after the building was completed many members left the church, and the burden of the heavy cost has been met by comparatively few. The bell which surmounts the edifice was cast in Troy, N. Y., from a cannon captured by the German army from the French at Sedan, and which was presented to the congregation on request, by King William. The membership now includes eighty families, or about three hundred confirmed members.

Baptist Church.—A series of Baptist meetings were commenced in the old Universalist Church on Pine Street about February 1, 1864, by Rev. B. C. Willoughby, of Meadville, and Rev. H. H. Stockton. A resolution to organize a Baptist congregation was signed by fifteen persons, February 15, and May 9, 1864, the organization was duly effected by Rev. J. J. Gundy, at the house of David Hanna, with the following eleven members: Russell Chappel, James Parker, David Hanna and wife, Henry J. Esler and wife, G. W.

Hughson, L. S. French, D. K. Williams and wife and John R. Madison. Of these, D. K. Williams and wife are the only members now remaining in the congregation. John R. Williams and wife and H. C. Ohlen also met to participate in the organization, but did not at once become members. Rev. J. J. Gundy, the first pastor, remained until July 1, 1865. Rev. J. L. Hays became pastor the same year, but closed his labors in 1866. A call was extended January 3, 1867, to Rev. J. N. Webb, who served until November, 1869. His successor, Rev. Andrew Murdock, was pastor from May 29, 1870, to April, 1875. Rev. William Gilkes was called in October of that year, and he was followed, in April, 1877, by Rev. J. H. Gunning, who remained pastor until Rev. Frank H. Rowley, the present pastor, took charge in June, 1879. As early as 1864 steps were taken to erect a church, but nothing was accomplished until 1868, prior to which date services had been held in the Crittenden Hall, and various other buildings. The present capacious and handsome brick structure, about 38x70 feet in size, located on the southeast corner of Perry and Walnut Streets, was commenced in 1868, and dedicated July 28, 1869. Its cost was about $25,000. The present membership is 225.

St. Titus Catholic Church was organized by Father M. A. De LaRoque, who came to Titusville in 1863, and remained until 1865. Among the leading early members were: Thomas Goodwin, Hugh O'Hare, Joseph Seip and Thomas McNamara. The second pastor was Father Napoleon Mignault, who remained until the summer of 1871. Father Peter Sheridan succeeded, but remained only a few months, and in October, 1871, Father J. D. Coady took charge, and has ever since been pastor. The first services were held in a small building which stood on Pine Street, on the lot immediately west of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but shortly after the church was formed the present commanding church edifice, located on Spring Street, between Pine and Second, was reared at a great expense. The membership of the church is now about 1,200.

St. Walburga German Catholic Church was organized in 1872, by Rev. George Myers. Its early membership included the names of Philip Hesch, Henry Meyer, Hermon Buser and John Lehr. During the winter of 1872–73, the frame church building located on the north side of Brook Street, east of Franklin, was erected. In 1872 Rev. James Lachermeier succeeded Rev. Myers, and has since been paster. The congregation includes about seventy families.

B'nai Gmiluth, or the Orthodox Jewish Church.—A congregation of this body was organized in 1870, by Rev. Moses Jarowich, with about twenty members. Among the early members were: Joseph Davis, M. J. Marks, Isaac. Hyman, J. J. Marks and M. Crook. The second pastor was Rev. Isaac Bernstein, since whom Rev. D. W. Jacobson, and later M. G. Levinson, the present pastor, have preached. This society now enrolls forty-three members. A church was first built near the corner of Water and Martin Streets, but soon after it was sold to the Dunkirk, Allegheny Valley & Pittsburgh Railroad, and about 1872 a frame structure, 30x56 feet, was raised on the east side of Martin Street, between Main and Walnut, at a cost, including lot, of $7,000.

Temple of B'nai Zion, Reformed Jewish Church, located on the east side of Franklin Street, south of Spruce, was completed about 1871. It is 30x65 feet in size, and cost in construction almost $10,000. It was dedicated by Dr. J. M. Weis, of Cincinnati. The organization of the society that worships here was effected with twenty-seven members as early as 1862. Among the early members were: G. Frey, Jacob Strauss, A. Strasburger and Jacob Auerbach. By the constant change of population which has characterized Titusville this congregation has lost many of its members, and now numbers but thirteen. Rev.

Joseph Swed was pastor from about 1868 to 1870. Revs. B. Egar, Alexander Rosenspitz and Dr. Felix Jesselson have also ministered to this charge. The last named closed his pastorate in 1882, and since then a vacancy has existed.

The African Methodist Episcopal Congregation meets in Trinity Chapel, which stands on the southeast corner of Elm and Myrtle Streets. It is a frame structure, 32x62 feet, and was reared in 1870 at an expense of $3,500. The class had been organized the year previous by Rev. Benjamin Wheeler, with ten members. The first male members were: John Neal, Robert Jackson, Theodore A. Thompson, Benjamin Gaylord and Willis Marion. Rev. J. A. Hemsley and others soon after united. The membership now comprises thirty-two. The pastors have been: Rev. B. Wheeler, 1869–72; J. M. Morris, 1872–75; B. Wheeler, 1875–77; W. A. J. Phillips, 1877–79; J. M. Morris, 1879–80; A. R. Palmer, 1880–83; S. T. Jones, 1883–84.

The Swedish Lutheran Church was organized in October, 1872, with twenty-four members, prominent among whom were: Alfred Anderson, N. P. Ekman, G. Palmquist, Lewis Malm and L. J. Cedarquist. Rev. J. W. Kindborg, the first pastor, served until October, 1875; Rev. A. J. Ostlin followed in 1876, and remained until 1879. Rev. M. U. Norberg was pastor from 1879 to 1881, Rev. N. G. Johnson, the present pastor, commencing his labors January 1, 1881. The first meetings were held in the high school building, but the house of worship was erected in 1872. It is a frame building, 36x60 feet, with basement, and stands on the northeast corner of Oak and Second Streets. Not until 1883, however, was the building wholly completed. Services are conducted exclusively in the Swedish language. The membership is about sixty.

A congregation of the United Presbyterian Church, under the ministrations of Rev. J. Audley Browne, had a brief existence at Titusville about ten years ago, and a small class of the United Brethren denomination was also active for but a short time.

Cemeteries.—The first place of burial at Titusville was at the head of Franklin Street, and was devoted to its sacred purposes soon after the opening of the present century. Mr. Blood, a Revolutionary hero, and Mrs. Ruth Curry, were the first persons interred within its banks. The grounds occupied about an acre, and were used until 1870. In that year R. D. Fletcher, E. H. Chase and Jonathan Watson purchased the tract of land which now forms Woodlawn Cemetery, situated a short distance west of the city limits, and expended $18,000 in the arrangement and embellishment of the grounds, which cover seventeen acres of land, through which Spring Run meanders. Across its course five dams have been constructed. The grounds rise on either side of the run in a gentle slope, and have been laid out into several sections of lots. One section is owned by the city and devoted to free burials; another section provides a place for single interments, while the rest is formed into family lots. The improvements are not yet complete, but under the supervision of R. D. Fletcher further ornamentation is being made.

Societies.—In few cities of its size are the various fraternal and beneficent societies so well and numerously represented as in Titusville. Almost every order of general extent has its lodge or chapter here.

Chorazin Lodge, No. 507, I. O. O. F., is the oldest in the city, and was organized May 18, 1854. Its charter officers were: J. H. Clement, N. G.; J. G. Burlingham, V. G.; G. E. Brewer, Secretary, and Z. Wade, Treasurer. The lodge has ever since been successfully maintained, and it has at present a membership of eighty-eight. Meetings are held every Wednesday evening. The Odd Fellows' Hall is a large, well-furnished apartment in the Chase & Stewart Block, and in it many other lodges meet.

S. Newton Pettis

Petrolia Encampment, No. 226, I. O. O. F., was organized March 30, 1872. Its initial officers were: W. Riley Weaver, C. P.; N. A. Lamphear, H. P.; George R. Oliver, S. W.; J. S. Merrell, J. W.; J. T. McAninch, S.; F. M. Hills, T.; S. B. Logan, I. S. The present membership is about forty, and regular meetings are held the first and third Mondays of each month.

Oil Creek Lodge, No. 303, A. F. & A. M., was chartered December 1, and constituted December 22, 1856. The first meetings were held on the second floor of a frame building which stood on the northwest corner of Washington Street and Cherry Alley. The Masonic Block stands on the southwest corner of Franklin and Spring Streets, and in it the lodge has a sumptuously appareled hall. The charter officers were: Truman Pierce, Master; Jonathan Watson, S. W.; Warner Perry, J. W. The present membership is about 175. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month.

Shepherd Lodge, No. 463, A. F. & A. M.—Oil Creek Lodge becoming too large, it was resolved to organize a second Masonic lodge at Titusville. Accordingly this lodge was chartered March 2, 1870, and constituted April 7, following. Its first officers were: James R. Barber, W. M.; Frederick A. Hall, S. W.; Charles P. Hatch, J. W. The membership is at this writing eighty-one, and regular meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of each month.

Aaron Chapter, No. 207, R. A. M., was granted a charter May 3, 1866. Its initial officers were: Charles L. Wheeler, H. P.; J. F. Cheshire, King; David Crosley, Scribe. The membership is about 125, and meetings are held on the third Friday of each month.

Rose Croix Commandery, No. 38, K. T., was chartered April 11, 1871, with the following officers: John Ferdig, E. C.; Hezekiah Dunham, Gen.; R. H. Boughton, Jr., C. G.; James R. Barber, Prelate; A. A. Aspinwall, Treasurer; H. B. Cullom, Recorder. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month, and the membership is about eighty.

Occident Council, No. 41, R. & S. M., obtained its charter June 13, 1871 Its first officers were: A. A. Aspinwall, T. I. G. M.; J. J. McCrum, D. I. G. M.; James W. Graham, P. C. of W.; R. W. Holbrook, M. of Ex.; A. D. Hetfield, Recorder. The second Thursday of each month is the date of regular meetings, and the council numbers about fifty members.

Cussewago Tribe, No. 163, I. O. of Red Men, received its charter January 17, 1870. It started with thirty members, now reduced to fourteen. The first officers were: W. H. R. Kelty, Sachem; Jacob Aarons, Senior Sagamore; Moses Felleman, Junior Sagamore; E. A. Keene, C. of R.; N. Grossmayer, K. of W. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening. The tribe has a fine hall in the Chase & Stewart Block, wherein six other orders meet.

Titusville City Lodge, No. 291, K. of P., was chartered April 15, 1871, with the following members: Adam Moos, W. L. David, J. D. McFadden, Wilson Smith, N. A. Lanphier, G. S. Rowland, J. Williamson, L. S. Dean and L. B. Stewart. It surrendered its charter in 1877, but was re-organized by ten of the old members in 1879 with the following officers: Thomas Allison, C. C.; Simon Strauss, Jr., V. C.; Thomas Whitby, K. of R. and S.; Robert H. Bailey, K. of F.; John Bentz, K. of Ex.; A. H. Stein, Prelate; John H. Smith, M. at A. The membership is forty-four, and every Friday evening is the time of meeting.

C. S. Chase Post, No. 50, G. A. R., was first organized about 1867, but disbanded a few years later. It was re-organized June 21, 1879, with forty-five members and the following officers: Joseph H. Cogswell, P. C.; William H. Wisner, S. V. C.; C. Marvin Coburn, J. V. C.; Robert P. Halgreen, Adj't.;

Ed W. Bettes, Q. M.; Dr. J. L. Dunn, Surgeon; Norris Crossman, Chaplain; L. L. Shattuck, O. D.; P. N. Robinson, O. G.; E. R. Sherman, S. M.; W. T. Allison, Q. M. S. Subsequent Commanders have been: C. M. Coburn, 1880; L. D. Shattuck, 1881; E. W. Bettes, 1882; W. M. Dame, 1883; J. L. Dunn, 1884. The present membership is 149. Meetings are held each alternate Monday.

Shepherd Lodge, No. 74, A. O. U. W., was chartered May 30, 1874, with the following officers: C. L. A. Shepherd, P. M. W.; W. C. Plummer, M. W.; A. O. Paul, G. F.; E. Parsons, O.; J. A. Mather, Recorder; J. R. Levan, Financier; D. H. Wingart, Receiver; J. Robinson, G.; C. H. Smith, I. W.; A. Robinson, O. W. Meetings are held every Wednesday evening in the C. M. B. A. Hall. The membership is about sixty.

Titusville Union, No. 168, E. A. U., was instituted October 19, 1880, with twenty-two members. Its first officers were: Dr. Theodore J. Young, Pres.; Charles W. Bingham, V. P.; Henry C. Grenner, Sec.; George M. Lyons, Treas.; Mrs. Teresa A. Ackerman, Acc.; Mrs. Susan M. Lyons, Adv.; Edward Pollard, Chan.; Mrs. Harriet N. Pollard, Chap.; Ernest Zeugner, Warden; Mrs. K. L. McDonald, Aux.; Miss Kate Ackerman, Sent.; William Megahey, Watch. The membership is now thirty-nine, and the second and fourth Wednesday of each month the date of meeting.

King Council, No. 15, R. T. of T., was instituted October 26, 1878, with fourteen members. The following were the first officers: D. Ogden, S. C.; William H. McDonald, V. C.; Dr. G. B. Bishop, P. C.; Mrs. E. M. Bishop, Chap.; Sarah A. Miller, Rec. Sec.; Rose Sisney, Treas.; L. D. Curtis, Herald; Mrs. A. Williams, Guard; William King, Sent. Meetings are held every Friday night. The membership is 125.

Titusville Branch, No. 1, C. U. B. A., was chartered June 1, 1879, with these officers: William Moran, Pres.; William Dillon, 1st V. P.; James Kennedy, 2d V. P.; Martin T. Carroll, Rec. Sec.; James Leslie, Asst. Rec. Sec.; D. D. Hughes, Fin. Sec.; John Theobald, Treas.; William H. Slattery, Marshal; Ephraim Robinson, Guard. Monday evening is the date of regular meetings; the membership is 107.

There are two Lodges of the Knights of Honor in Titusville. Petroleum Lodge, No. 462, was chartered with eighteen members October 12, 1877. It meets every Friday evening, and now has sixty-nine members. Silver Creek Lodge, No. 2,027, was organized February 4, 1880, but not chartered until August 27 following. It opened with thirty-six members, and now has fifty-five. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening.

Titusville Council, No. 109, Royal Arcanum, was chartered May 3, 1880, with twenty-one members, now increased to about sixty. It meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, and since institution has not lost a member by death.

Oil Creek Council, No. 767, American Legion of Honor, was chartered October 31, 1881, with twenty-nine members. Its first officers were M. B. Miller, Com.; E. T. Hall, V. Com.; W. H. Burns, Sec.; William McGinnis, Col.; T. W. Main, Treas. The present membership is thirty-two; each alternate Thursday is the night of meeting.

St. Elmo Encampment, No. 28, Knights of St. John and Malta, was chartered August 9, 1880. It is still in a flourishing condition, and meets in the Odd Fellows' Hall.

Titusville Council, No. 28, American Legion of Honor, was chartered December 1, 1880, with twenty-five members. It meets in the C. M. B. A. Hall.

Formosa Lodge, No. 166, K. and L. of H. was chartered September 15,

1879, with twenty-five members. It has now forty-two members, and meets each alternate Tuesday.

Eureka Encampment, Guardian Knights, was organized with nineteen members November 2, 1881. It is yet active and meets in the hall of the Red Men.

Here are also the meetings of the *Deutscher Order der Harugari* are held. The order is in a prosperous state.

Simon Lodge, No. 81, B'nai Brith, was organized October 17, 1866. It has fifty-six members and meets each alternate Sunday.

Alexander Lodge, No. 48, O. K. S. B., was organized July 26, 1871. It now has thirty-four members and meets each alternate Sunday.

Hiram Lodge, No. 46, O. K. S. B., was organized July 25, 1871. It also holds regular meetings each alternate Sunday, and now has about thirty-eight members.

Titusville City Lodge, No. 90, Free Sons of Israel has also existence in the city.

Fosterlandet Temple, No. 9, Scandanavian Order of Templars, a temperance organization, was formed May 20, 1883, with fourteen members and now has twenty-two. It meets every Friday night.

Oil Creek Grange, No. 300, P. of H., was chartered November 23, 1874, and meets in the hall of the Red Men.

St. Joseph's Verein, a benevolence association, auxiliary to the German Catholic Church, was organized in 1872 with about forty members. It meets monthly.

Pioneer Lodge, No. 138, Royal Orange, was organized in 1866 with more than 100 members, now reduced to fifty-six. It meets each alternate Wednesday.

Several lodges have been established here, which are now defunct, among them two lodges of the *Ancient Forresters* and one of *Catholic Knights.*

Miscellaneous.—The city is amply provided with accommodations for the traveling public, containing, as it does, thirty or more hotels of all grades. The Hotel Brunswick is the finest hotel in the county, and one of the best in western Pennsylvania. The building is a five-story pressed brick structure, 80x100 feet in size, containing seventy-five apartments, magnificently furnished, handsomely decorated, and supplied with every convenience. Few, if any cities of its size, boast of an equally sumptuous house. The original building was erected in 1871, but a few years later was reduced to ashes. The work of reconstruction was immediately commenced, and the hotel completed and equipped more elegantly than before.

One of the most deplorable events that has visited Titusville was the destruction by fire, April 14, 1882, of the Parshall Opera House, which was erected by James Parshall in 1870, and formally opened to the public on the evening of December 19, that year, with "Rip Van Winkle," played to an immense audience. It was a magnificent structure, arranged, furnished and embellished in a rich and elegant style, and having a seating capacity of 1,500. It attracted the best companies on the road, and was liberally patronized until its doom was sealed, it is supposed by an incendiary. Amusements are now given in the Academy of Music, but arrangements have been made for the erection of a new opera house.

PART IV.

TOWNSHIP HISTORIES.

TOWNSHIP HISTORIES.

CHAPTER I.

ATHENS TOWNSHIP.

BOUNDARY—LANDS—EARLY SETTLEMENTS—ORGANIZATION—POPULATION—STREAMS—RAILROADS—TOPOGRAPHY—TIMBER—INDUSTRIES—SCHOOLS—POST OFFICES—LITTLE COOLEY—FIRST SETTLERS—INDUSTRIES, ETC.—CHURCHES.

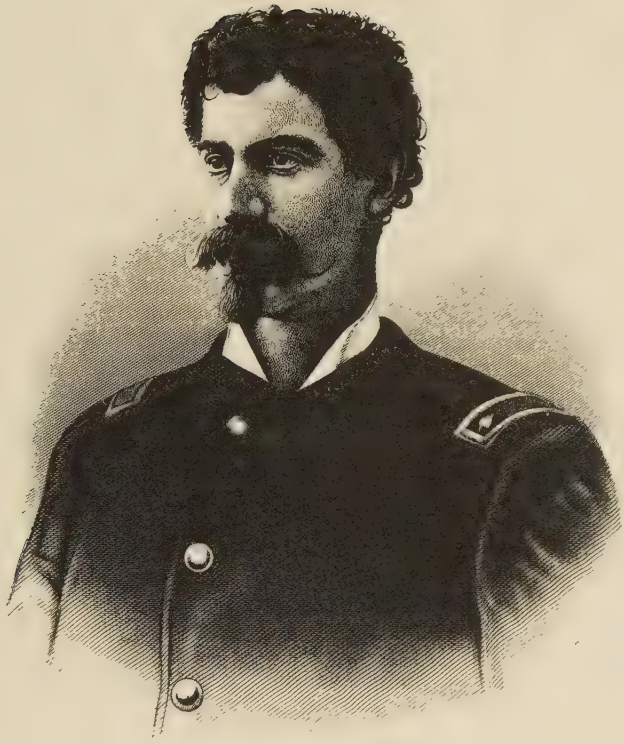
ATHENS, first in alphabetical order, was the last, or one of the last townships of Crawford County to become permanently settled. It is situated in the northeast part of the county, and is bound by Bloomfield on the north, by Rome on the east, by Steuben on the south, and by Richmond and Rockdale on the west. The southern part is included within the Seventh Donation District, the northern part within the Eighth Donation District. Between the two is a wedge-shaped "gore," extending east and west, and having an average width in this township of about a fourth of a mile. It was produced by carelessness and the consequent inaccuracy of the early surveys. While in other regions surveys sometimes overlapped each other, causing a confusion of conflicting titles, this narrow strip or gore between the Seventh and Eighth Districts remained unsurveyed and was without claimants. It was afterward settled as State land. There were, however, conflicting claims to the military tracts embraced within the township. James D. Minnis, a prominent and well-informed resident of the township, states in an historical article that two surveys had been made, the Doe and the Herrington, which did not conform to each other, and created litigation and much anxiety. The Nickleson heirs laid claim to a great portion of the land, by virtue of a mortgage, alleged to have been granted them by the Commonwealth. The tracts were advertised for sale, and great consternation prevailed, but happily for the occupants and owners of the lands, the State intervened and protected the settlers. Many of the tracts were owned by Revolutionary soldiers or their representatives, scattered widely throughout the Union. Some of the land was sold at tax sale, the validity of which was afterward successfully disputed. Altogether, the inducements for an early settlement of the land was anything but inviting. Land was abundant and cheap throughout the then great West, and the burden of leveling the gigantic forests was seldom assumed without some assurance that the land thus wrested, after long-continued fatiguing exertions, from a wilderness state, could be successfully held.

It was not until 1820, or shortly before, that the face of the country showed signs of an approaching civilization. When the first settlers came they found in the township, in a cabin buried in the heart of the forest, a solitary white man, by name John Smith, living in lonely seclusion, with only the wandering Indians as companions. He had fled his native land, Ireland, near the close of the last century, on account of political disturbances, and from Pittsburgh

made his way up the Allegheny River and Oil Creek to near its source; then left the stream, and proceeding to the ravine on what was afterward the Taylor Farm, Tract 1696, he erected a cabin. He made no attempt to secure the title to land, and effected but a slight clearing. His occupation was hunting, trapping and fishing, and at long intervals he made his way to distant posts and exchanged his peltry for the few commodities of life he desired. He often hunted with the Indians who encamped in this vicinity, and became their intimate friend. When the cabins of the foremost pioneers and the incisive strokes of the woodman's ax began to encroach upon the extensive hunting grounds, Mr. Smith, like his dusky neighbors, took his final departure for parts unknown, probably to the deeper recesses of the wilderness, to live over again his life of solitude and obscurity.

The Tract on which the cabin of the hermit stood became, about 1820, the home of Dr. Silas Taylor, a prominent pioneer. He was born of Puritan ancestry, in Massachusetts, February 18, 1787, and removed to Tract 1696, in the northern part of Athens, from Genesee County, N. Y., where he had been engaged in the practice of medicine. He at once commenced the labor of land improvement, and at the same time followed his profession. He was the pioneer physician of this portion of the county, his field of practice spreading over Athens, Bloomfield, Rockdale, Sparta, Richmond, Rome, Steuben and Troy. His journeys were made on horse-back through indistinct and rugged bridle paths, and were often protracted late into the night or continued for days, yet his active practice yielded scarcely more than a bare subsistence. As a citizen, Dr. Taylor took an interest in public local affairs, and did much to improve the roads and the schools of his township. He reared a large family, was a prominent member of the Methodist Class at Centreville, and after residing most of his life in Athens, died at Batavia, N. Y., June 29, 1875.

Mrs. Sarah A. Taylor, the second wife and widow of Dr. Taylor, was a notable pioneer woman. She emigrated when a little girl with her father, Theodore Scowden, from the Susquehanna to what is now Union Township, this county, in 1800. At an early age she married Capt. John Minnis, a soldier of the war of 1812, and settled with him in Mercer County. He was a carpenter by occupation, and his business often detained him from home till late at night, or sometimes for days, and she was sometimes left alone in a large unfinished cabin standing near the border of a dense and dismal forest. One evening, after awaiting her husband's return, and he not coming, she at last retired and composed herself to sleep. In the course of the night she was awakened by the noise of a large animal climbing the side of the house. Soon after she heard it spring to the loft above, which was only partially furnished with a floor. Apprehending her extreme danger, she sprang from the couch and sought to rekindle the dying embers, and thus keep off the ferocious animal, but only a few faint sparks remained, and the growls of the hungry intruder attested its displeasure at this procedure. Retreating to the farther end of the room, Mrs. Minnis took refuge in a large tea-chest which fastened with a spring-lock. Remembering the fate of Genevra, she kept her fingers between the chest and lid. An instant later the savage creature leaped upon the box, crushing her fingers. She fainted and remained unconscious until morning, then with difficulty withdrew from her cramped position, and finding the animal gone, hastened with her frightful story to the nearest neighbor. The panther, for such it proved to be, had devoured a quantity of fish and meat suspended near the fireplace from a beam. Mrs. Minnis married Dr. Taylor in 1836, and remained a resident of Athens Township until her death, which occurred at the residence of her son, November 15, 1883.



Geo. F. Ryan

Among the earliest settlers of Athens were: Abraham Wheeler, Samuel Willis, Joseph King, Elder Hutchinson, John Shaubarger, Henry Hatch, Jonah Edson and Thomas Delamater. Abraham Wheeler was born in New Hampshire August 13, 1793, and in 1819 emigrated with his family from Genesee County, N. Y., and settled on Tract 1597 in the northern part of the township. He was a man of great determination and force, which he expended in clearing a large farm. Late in life he removed to Sparta Township, where he died March 17, 1876, leaving a large family. Samuel Willis settled in the northern part of Tract 1695. He was somewhat eccentric in his manners, and on that account dreaded by some of his superstitious neighbors. Mr. Willis in a few years removed elsewhere, and Bartlett Fuller, from Whitehall, N. Y., succeeded him in the possession of this land, and remained its occupant until his death. Joseph King settled on the "gore," about a half mile east of Little Cooley. He died a few years later and was buried on the farm. Mrs. Sarah King, his widow, remained a resident on the place, and there died in extreme old age. Elder Hutchinson was one of the earliest pioneers. He settled north of Little Cooley on a tract of waste land, which is in the Eighth Donation District, but was left unnumbered, and consequently undrawn, on account of its marshiness. The quality of the land has since improved by clearing and drainage. Mr. Hutchinson died here about 1837, and his descendants still occupy the farm. He was a life-long farmer and a Presbyterian. John Shaubarger, originally from Germany, emigrated from Westmoreland County to Tract 1324, in the south-central portion of the township. He was a rough and rugged German, well fitted physically to cope with pioneer obstacles and endure privations. By industry he cleared a large farm which his descendants yet possess. Jonah Edson settled on Tract 1692, in the northeast part of Athens, prior to 1820, and remained there until his death in 1848, at a ripe old age. Henry Hatch settled on Tract 1319 in the south part of the township, where he still resides in the vigor of a hale and hearty old age.

Other pioneers of Athens were: Charles Loop, William McCray, Elihu Root, Michael Dobbs, Timothy Higley, Robert Cage, Ephraim Fuller, Samuel Rice, John Vancise, Thomas Bloomfield, Luther Merchant, William Clements, James Drake and Lewis Warren, all of whom were here prior to 1836. Charles Loop came from New York State and settled on the gore about a half mile east of Little Cooley. He was an early Justice of the Peace, and moved to Erie County. William McCray, a native of Ireland, settled on Tract 1689, in the northeast portion of the township, where at his death he left two daughters and three sons. Elihu Root obtained from the State a farm in Tract 1567, in the northwest part of the township. He remained its resident until death, and was buried on the place. Michael Dobbs was born in Canada near Lake Champlain, crossed into the United States to avoid conscription in the English army, was an expert hunter and trapper, and accoutred in huntsman's garb, passed much of his time in days gone by in the pursuit of game. He still resides on his old farm on Tract 1567, settled by him in pioneer times. Timothy Higley, who hailed from Connecticut, settled in the south part of Tract 1797, where until death he followed farming. Robert Cage, a native of Harper's Ferry, in April, 1824, settled on Tract 1718 in the northwest part of the township, where he died in August, 1869. Ephraim Fuller came, an aged man, and resided until his death, with his son-in-law, Luther Merchant, who dwelt in the northeast part of the township on Tract 1689. Samuel Rice subsequently moved to the site of Riceville. John Vancise occupied the south part of Tract 1597, and later removed to Venango County. Thomas Bloomfield, Jr., of Bloomfield Township, settled on Tract 146 in the eastern part.

William Clements occupied Tract 1735, and died at Riceville. Lewis Warren dwelt on Tract 1690, and later removed to Richmond Township.

James Drake was born in Seneca County, N. Y., December 14, 1795; served as a private in the war of 1812; married Sallie Marvin in 1818, and in 1831 purchased 100 acres in Tract 1360, this township. He did not at once occupy it, but by contract with Ebenezer Felton, of Boston, who owned several hundred acres in the southern part of the township, he built for him a saw and grist-mill on Muddy Creek in Tract 1357. A carding-machine and blacksmith shop were also added. Mr. Drake remained in charge of Felton's Mills about twelve years, then moved to his farm on Tract 1360, where he remained engaged in farming until his death, January 25, 1876. Felton's Mills was an important place for a time. A flourishing business was transacted, and employment was given to about fifteen persons, among whom were: Levi Burdsley, Warren Terrill, Joseph Sair, Warren Fairbanks and Carlton Eaton. The mills suspended soon after Mr. Drake left them. Ebenezer Felton, the proprietor was a resident of Boston, and spent a portion of his time in Athens Township managing his affairs.

The township was settled slowly. It was formed in 1829, the place of holding elections, by act of Assembly approved April 23, 1829, being fixed at the house of Ebenezer Felton. The original bounds included the greater part of what is now Steuben. It is said that at the first election but twelve votes were cast, seven of the votes constituting the Election Board. The population in 1850 was 928; in 1860, 1,192; in 1870, 1,317, and in 1880, 1,419. The township has an area of 17,156 acres, valued on the tax duplicate of 1882 at $230,737. It is well-watered by Muddy Creek, which, flowing northwesterly with its tributaries, drains the central and western part, and Oil Creek which flows southeasterly through the eastern part. The Union & Titusville Railroad follows the course of the latter stream. The surface is hilly and rolling. Along Muddy Creek some swampy land is found which has proved amenable to drainage. The forests were composed of hemlock, pine, black oak, red oak, white oak, cherry, beech, cucumber, white wood, soft maple, hard maple, lime or bass wood, chestnut, elm and ash. The soil is of good quality.

In early times shingles were about the only staple article of trade. They were made in large quantities and shipped by water to Pittsburgh and other cities. Quantities of black salts were then produced, and their sale at Meadville furnished many pioneers with the means through which to pay their taxes. Lumbering is still carried on to some extent. Among the saw-mills now in operation may be mentioned Thomas Smith's water-mill on Muddy Creek, a mile above Little Cooley; Bidwell's water-mill, a mile below the village, and Stockwell's steam-mill in the northern part.

The first school in the township was taught in 1826 by Chelous Edson, in a cabin which stood in the ravine on Tract 1692 in the northeast part of the township. Mr. Edson as teacher was followed by his wife, Miss Elvira Sizer, Joseph Langworthy, Darwin Taylor and Lydia Taylor. Six or eight years later Aaron Ellis, Columbus Edson and Charlotte Crouch were instructors. Daboll's Arithmetic, the English Reader, Webster's Spelling Book, with a little writing, embraced the course then taught. The next school was held in a log ashery on the Felton farm in 1831. Miss Wooster was the first teacher here; then Miss A. Curtis, and in 1834 Delos Crouch, a very noted teacher, gave instruction. The next school was held in the Langworthy settlement, then one was taught on Post Ridge, and afterward one at Hutchinson's, on Muddy Creek. The first good school building was erected in 1840, in the Taylor Subdistrict, through private contributions. It was clapboarded on plank,

ceiled within, and was well lighted and seated. Among the teachers of this school were: Prof. Bunham, of Rochester, N. Y., Chauncey B. Sellers, of Meadville, and James D. Minnis.

The first postoffice within the township was Taylor's Stand, established about 1830. Dr. Silas Taylor was Postmaster for twenty years, and, except several years during which Mr. Southwick held the office, James D. Minnis has been Postmaster since 1850. This office originally supplied Athens, Bloomfield, Troy and parts of Richmond, Sparta and Rockdale. The mail was received once a week from Meadville, and was carried on horseback. At first scarcely half a score of newspapers were taken throughout this region. The postage on letters varied from 6 to 25 cents, according to the distance of their destination.

Little Cooley, the only village of the township, is located in the western part, near Muddy Creek. It contains two stores of general merchandise, two groceries, one hardware and one drug store, one hotel, a water grist-mill, a broom-handle factory, a cheese factory, two shoe shops, a wagon shop, a blacksmith shop, a United Brethren Church, a schoolhouse erected in 1884, and about twenty-five dwellings. Charles Loop and Rev. Steele first settled here and engaged in the manufacture of shingles and tubs. Their sojourn, however, was only temporary. Isaac A. Cummings was the first permanent settler, commencing the demolition of the forest here about 1851. Nathan Southwick a little later opened the first tavern. George Fleek and L. J. Drake successively pursued the same genial avocation. Mr. Drake started the first store about 1852. Hosea Southwick a little later erected a saw-mill. He subsequently converted it to a grist-mill, which has ever since remained in operation. The growth of the settlement gradually continued until it attained its present proportion.

The United Brethren Church at Little Cooley was formed about 1860, and among its early leading members were: Joseph Barlow and wife, William Wright and wife, Horace Wright and wife, and William Bennett and wife. Early meetings were held in the schoolhouse until about 1867, when the present substantial house of worship was erected under the supervision of this society, many of the citizens in this vicinity, regardless of church affiliations, contributing to its construction. The society now numbers about thirty members, and is a part of French Creek Circuit, which includes four other appointments—Wilkin's and Maple Grove in Bloomfield Township, and Brown Hill and Kellogg's in Rockdale. Early pastors of this circuit were: Revs. H. Bedow, Joseph Hoyt, N. R. Luce, F. H. Herrick, Lansing McIntire, George Hill, D. C. Starkey and W. Robinson. Recently the following have filled this circuit: Rev. Lansing McIntire, 1876–77; R. Smith, 1878; N. C. Foulk, 1879–80; E. E. Belden, 1881–82; W. H. Chiles, 1883.

The "Church of God," an Advent congregation, was organized with three members in 1855, by Elder Charles Crawford. John Root, Alva S. Gehr and Mr. Bush were early members. The society has no church edifice, but meets in a schoolhouse in the northwest part of the township in winter, and in the grove, "God's first temple," in summer. Elder John T. Ongley, of Bloomfield Township, is the present pastor.

CHAPTER II.

BEAVER TOWNSHIP.

ERECTION—BOUNDARIES—PHYSICAL FEATURES—INDUSTRIES—LAND TITLES—SETTLEMENTS—SALT INDUSTRY—MILLS—SCHOOLS—BEAVER CENTER—CHURCHES.

BEAVER was one of the eight townships erected directly after the organization of Crawford County. Its original boundaries, under date of July 9, 1800, are thus preserved in the docket of Quarter Sessions Court: Beginning at the northeast corner of Conneaut Township; thence north until it intersects the northern boundary of Crawford County; thence west to the western boundary of the State; thence south to the northwest corner of Conneaut Township; thence east to the place of beginning. Beaver was then, as it is now, the northwest township of the county, but its limits were considerably larger, embracing besides what is now Beaver three tiers of tracts of the west side of Spring, eight or ten tracts in northwestern Summerhill, and four or five tiers of tracts off the north side of Conneaut Township. These boundaries remained until 1829, when the county was divided into townships appoximating six miles square each, and Beaver was reduced to its present limits.

The surface is low and level. In early times it was wet and a large portion, it was supposed, could never be used for farming purposes, but since the timber has been removed the land is found to be dry, arable and productive. Five or six sluggish streams, tributaries of Conneaut Creek, rise near the south line of the township, and creep northward into Erie County, in channels almost parallel to each other. Beech, maple, ash and poplar were the prevailing types of timber. The soil is clayey, and well adapted to grazing. Dairying and stock-growing are the chief pursuits. Lumbering is also carried on, though not so extensively as in former years.

The northern and central portions of the township consist of tracts which were patented by individuals, most of whom, however, were not settlers. The land act of 1792, besides the payment of 20 cents per acre, required a five years' residence and the clearing of eight acres to perfect a title to a tract of 400 acres. In many instances a non-resident entered the land and compiled with the terms of settlement by means of a temporary tenant, to whom a stipend or a portion of the tract was given, while other enterprising pioneers with large families entered several tracts, built rude cabins and placed a son in each one. The western part of Beaver Township consists of thirteen tracts, owned by the American Land Company, while in the eastern and southern portions the Pennsylvania Population Company acquired the title of sixteen tracts.

Settlements were commenced in Beaver as early as 1797. Some of the pioneers came and placed their cabins on tracts which they expected to patent and occupy permanently. Others came by contract with the Pennsylvania Population Company, agreeing to settle and make the necessary improvements for a gratuity of 100 acres, usually in addition purchasing from the company

50 or 100 acres. When the opinion gained currency that the actual residents were entitled to the entire tract by virtue of their settlement, most of these early settlers either abandoned their clearings and sought a choicer tract, or maintained their residence, and attempted to hold the entire tract against the company. Several test cases tried in the courts resulted adversely to the residents, and they were obliged to relinquish their claims.

The records of the Population Company make the following exhibit of their lands in what is now Beaver Township, giving the name of the settler, date of contract, which preceded the date of settlement only a few days, and the amount of land to be granted: Tract 661, Peter Hill, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, deed delivered to Thomas Collins, March 9, 1807; 662, Mary Hill, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, same as 661; 663, William Hill, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, deed delivered to Thomas Collins, March 9, 1807; 664, unsold; 667, Henry Sharp, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, deed delivered to Thomas Collins, March 9, 1807; 668, William Hill, Jr., November 20, 1797, 200 acres, deed delivered to Thomas Collins; 669, James Silverthorn, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, settled about three years by Silverthorn and abandoned; 670, small improvement under contract, then abandoned, afterward intruded on and again abandoned; 673, William Silverthorn, November 4, 1798, 200 acres, settled two or three years, then abandoned; 674, Jane Silverthorn, November 4, 1798, 200 acres, settled two or three years, then abandoned; 675, Isaac Silverthorn, November 4, 1797, 100 acres, a small improvement, and then abandoned; 676, Abraham Silverthorn, November 20, 1797, small improvement, and abandoned; 679, Thomas Reed, November 9, 1797, 200 acres, abandoned after small improvement; 680, Jeremiah Roberts, December 20, 1797, 100 acres, deed granted to Ralph Martin; 681 and 682, unsold. The last named six were intruded upon in 1801–02, and 1803, but after a settlement of several years were abandoned.

Other settlers in Beaver prior to 1800 were: George Foster, William Foster, Thomas Foster, Richard Durham, Alexander Durham, Philip McGuire, William Crozier, Martin Cunningham, John Whitington, Daniel Patton, Mr. Neal, James Thompson and William Douglas. These early settlers came mostly from Cumberland, Northumberland, Susquehanna and Huntingdon Counties. Crozier and Douglas removed to Spring Township, others scattered and in a few years, owing chiefly to the land troubles, Beaver Township was almost deserted. Perhaps the wet quality of the soil also induced some to seek homes elsewhere. In 1806 only George Foster, his son William, the Durhams and McGuire are known to have been within the limits of Beaver. Of the forty-seven chattel property tax-payers in the original Beaver Township, in 1810, only these three dwelt in what is now Beaver. About 1812 Philip McGuire removed with his family to Summit Township. Richard Durham and his son, Alexander, removing about the same time to French Creek, leaving the Fosters for several years the only residents of the township. His home was at Beaver Center, and his nearest neighbors six miles distant. Of his sons, George G., removed to Conneautville, Robert to Kansas, and William to Conneaut, Ohio. In 1816 immigration commenced from New York and the Eastern States, and an enterprising, industrious people soon filled the land. Among them were the Gates, Hollenbeaks, Browns, Larkins, Griswolds, Plymates and many others. The forests were rapidly cleared, roads constructed, schoolhouses built, saw and grist-mills established, and improvements of all kinds rapidly pushed forward.

The *Allegheny Magazine* for May, 1817, contains this mention of an early industry: "In the township of Beaver, twenty-one miles from this place

(Meadville), an attempt has been made for the establishment of salt works at one of these (Deer) licks, which promises advantages to this part of the country and to the patriotic undertakers. The late Samuel B. Magaw, Esq., and the Hon. William Clark, of Meadville, in 1815, employed men to bore into the bowels of the earth. In course of the following year, they had proceeded to such a depth, that the water, which rushed violently up the perforation, on artificial evaporation, yielded daily ten bushels of excellent salt. Finding the deeper they have gone, the water to become stronger, they have re-commenced boring and are now at the depth of 270 feet. Judge Clark, the heirs of Mr. Magaw and Mr. Daniel Shryock, the principal operator, are the owners of the works." The increased depth, instead of yielding a stronger brine, produced oil, rendering the salt water valueless for commercial purposes, and about 1821 the works were abandoned. They were located about one and a fourth miles southwest from Beaver Center.

From 1820 to about 1840 black salts, made from the lye of leached ashes, had a more ready sale than any other product. The ashes of burning log heaps possessed a commercial value, and were either conveyed to asheries and sold, or the settler would himself manufacture the salts and send them to market. In this way tax money was often secured, which saved the home of many a needy pioneer from sale by the County Sheriff.

The first saw-mill was erected by William Plymate; the second by Elihu Griswold. Other mills, both water and steam were built, as the settlements and demand for lumber increased. Robert Foster built a small grist-mill with one run of stone and bolt, near the Center in 1831.

The earliest pioneers did not possess the advantages of schools, and after most of them had left for other parts, the few remaining sent their children to be educated at Conneautville. A school was held at Beaver Center in 1826. It was a subscription school, and was managed by three Trustees. Salaries were low, ranging from $5 to $9 per month, the latter being considered high. Fuel was furnished by assessment, and only the common branches were taught. In 1834 there were four schools in Beaver. The one at Beaver Center is now independent and graded, consisting of two rooms.

Beaver Center, the only hamlet and postoffice within the township, is located at the crossing of two roads, a short distance south of the township center, and contains two churches, a schoolhouse, one physician, one dry goods store, one grocery, one drug store, two saw-mills, a manufactory of hand rakes, bent felloes, spokes and wagon poles, a cheese factory near by, a blacksmith-shop, a shoe-shop and about twenty dwellings. The first store was kept here by Lester Griswold. Mr. Barber and Francis Oliver were also early merchants. A. O. Barber, brother of the merchant, was a pioneer tailor.

A Methodist Episcopal Class was organized at Beaver Center in 1839, and meetings were held in the schoolhouse until 1870, when a neat, well-finished, frame church with steeple and belfry was completed, at a cost of about $1,500. The Gates, Hacketts and DeWolfs were early members. The class formerly belonged to Conneautville Circuit, but has since been attached to Spring, of which it is now a part.

The Christian Church at Beaver Center was organized with twenty members, by Rev. I. R. Spencer in 1870. Meetings were held in the schoolhouse until the erection of the present handsome church edifice in 1871, at a cost of $2,400. Rev. J. J. Summerbell, J. G. Bishop and E. M. Harris have been pastors. The last named, a resident of Springboro, now officiates. The congregation is prosperous.

A Christian Congregation was organized here about 1840, and continued for about ten years, with Elder J. E. Church as pastor.

At Reed's Corners, in the southwest part of Beaver, is a United Brethren Meeting-house, which was erected in 1861 at a cost of $800. The society was organized in 1850, with ten members, by Rev. Willis Lamson, who was a resident in this locality. The Reeds and Halsteads were early members. The membership is small and at present not supplied with a pastor.

CHAPTER III.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—ORGANIZATION—BOUNDARIES—PHYSICAL FEATURES—LANDS—EARLY SETTLERS—THOMAS BLOOMFIELD—RICHARD SHREVE—OTHER SETTLERS—MONEY—SCHOOLS—LINCOLNVILLE—CHURCHES—CHAPMANVILLE—BLOOMFIELD—CHEESE FACTORIES—MILLS.

BOROUGH OF RICEVILLE — INCORPORATION — OFFICERS — EARLY SETTLERS—SCHOOLS—INDUSTRIES—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES.

BLOOMFIELD was organized from the territory of Oil Creek Township early in 1811, first appearing on record in May of that year. Its bounds as then formed included Sparta as it now is, the northern part of Rome, the northeastern part of Athens, and the eastern part of Bloomfield. Rockdale included the western part of present Bloomfield until 1829, when the boundaries of the latter were constituted as they now exist. The township lies on the northern confines of the county, and is bounded on the west by Rockdale, on the south by Athens, and on the east by Sparta. Its area is 21,383 acres. Within its original bounds the population in 1820 was only 214, while every other township in the county contained 400 or more, indicating that the northeast portion of the county was tardiest in settlement. The township in 1850 contained 834 inhabitants; in 1860, 1,662; in 1870, 1,262, and in 1880, 1,491. The marked decrease in the last two decades was caused by the separate enumeration of Riceville.

The surface is broken by the valley of Oil Creek passing southeasterly through the township, and by the valleys of its numerous tributaries. Beech, maple, hemlock, elm and basswood are found on the low lands and in the eastern part, while oak and chestnut cover the ridges of the western, the soil of which is of excellent quality. Oil Creek Lake, which may properly be called the source of Oil Creek, though it has several inlets, lies near the center of the township. It is a beautiful sheet of water, several hundred acres in extent, with a depth of perhaps thirty feet, and well stocked with fish. On the early maps it is marked Washington Lake. It is the highest of the Crawford County lakes, having an altitude of 816 feet above Lake Erie. One little steamer plies on its bosom, and a hotel recently built on the lakeside provides for the wants of the visiting public.

The southern part of the township belongs to the Eight Donation District. The northern part was State land; a portion of which was claimed by John Fields, a wealthy Philadelphian. James Hamilton, his agent, made his advent in the wilderness in 1798, and with a view to stimulate settlement erected a grist and saw-mill at the foot of Oil Creek Lake. The mill was the first in the northeast part of the county, and was rebuilt in 1821. Mr. Hamilton in

1808 removed to Meadville. He had been followed to Bloomfield by quite a number of hardy pioneers, but most of them left again within a few years, on account of land difficulties and a dull soil. In the northwest corner the Holland Land Company had a few tracts. Its efforts to effect their settlement are shown by the following contracts for occupancy, with the appended unsuccessful results: Tract 108, Michael Schaeffer, 150 acres, August 30, 1799; Tract 109, Michael Schaeffer, 150 acres, August 30, 1799; Tract 110, Adam Hettritch, 150 acres, August 30, 1799, forfeited; Tract 111, Jacob Hettritch, 150 acres, August 30, 1799, forfeited; Tract 112, George Heim, 150 acres, August 30, 1799, forfeited; Tract 113, George Heim, 150 acres, August 30, 1799, forfeited; Tract 114, George Fetterman, 150 acres, December 20, 1798, claim relinquished. These individuals, if they were here at all, for they are not remembered, soon betook themselves to other climes, and the forests remained for many years in their pristine state of solitude.

One of the earliest permanent settlers was Thomas Bloomfield, whose name has been transmitted to the township. He was born in New Jersey November 23, 1746; at the age of twenty-three he married Elizabeth Morris, the niece of Robert Morris, the financier of the Revolution. Being a man of considerable means, engaged extensively in the coast trade, and in 1797 came from Fayette County to French Creek. The following year, with his family of nine children, one of whom was married, he removed to Bloomfield, settling one tract for himself, and one for his son Lewis, then under age, while his son Isaac and his son-in-law, James Bryan, each settled a tract. Thomas Bloomfield died January 15, 1814; his widow survived until 1829, when she passed away at the age of seventy-six years. Of their children, Catherine, the eldest, born in 1772, had married James Bryan, and they came to Bloomfield slightly in advance of her parents. She was the first white woman in the township, and after a residence here of about thirty-five years removed with her husband to the West. Isaac, born in 1776, married Lettus Titus, and after his settlement in Bloomfield, moved to Waterford, Erie County, whence in 1833 he emigrated to near Toledo, Ohio. Lewis married Susannah Kirk, daughter of a pioneer, and in 1829 removed to Stark County, Ohio, where he died in 1864. Anna married Calvin Frisbee, and settled in Le Bœuf Township, Erie County. Stephen died at Riceville in 1863. Sarah died at the age of eighteen years. Andrew died in this township in 1850. Thomas was a Justice of the Peace, and died in this county in 1866. Elizabeth, the youngest, married Israel Shreve, and died in Bloomfield in 1879.

Richard Shreve, son of Gen. William Shreve, of Revolutionary fame, was born in Burlington County, N. J., in 1760. In 1798 he emigrated with his family from Fayette County to Bloomfield, where he cleared a farm, served as Justice of the Peace and as Captain of the militia, and died September 12, 1822. He had a family of thirteen children, five of whom were born in the Western home. William, the eldest, born in 1784, settled on land adjoining his father's, raised a family of eleven children, and died in 1859; Barzilla cleared a farm in Bloomfield, built an early saw-mill, raised a family of ten children, and died in 1852; Thomas removed to Ohio; Nancy married Joshua Negus and settled in this township; Israel remained in Bloomfield till his death in 1866; Charlotte married Aaron Taylor, of this township; Richard found a home in Erie County, just across the line; Caleb died in early manhood; Benjamin remained on the old farm till his death in 1856; Charles was also a life-long resident of Bloomfield; Isaac settled in Sparta; Margaret, wife of Albert Sabin, and Sarah, moved to Ohio. Eight farms were cleared by the Shreves, and many of the descendants of the family still reside in the town-

Robert L Waid

ship. William and Barzilla brought with them a carding-machine, which they operated two seasons.

Between 1798 and 1800 Joshua Negus, Joseph Kirk, John Peiffer, John Taylor and James Winders moved in. A few years later came Dennis Carrol, Nathan Price, a Quaker, John Strickle, William Smith and probably others, but many of them remained for only a brief period. James Blakeslee came from Genesee County, N. Y., in May, 1819, and settled upon a farm where it is said a Mr. Cunningham dwelt before the arrival of the foremost pioneers. Hosea and Elkanah Blakeslee were sons of James, and well-known early settlers. James Blakeslee died at the age of eighty-seven. William Hubbell was a resident of Bloomfield prior to 1820. When John Chapin came to the western part of the township from Smyrna, N. Y., in 1839, the country was yet thinly settled. The roads were few and in bad condition. Linas Cummings, son of Nathan Cummings, of Cambridge Township, settled near the central part in 1829. John Willy was one of the first settlers in the western part. He afterward moved to Erie County, where he died.

Money was a highly prized but rare article in early times, and many of the necessities of life were obtained by barter or exchange. Cash in hand was necessary however to pay taxes, and a common method of obtaining it was to manufacture and sell black salts. Trees were felled and burned for the ashes, the lye from which was evaporated in large iron kettles until it became a thick syrupy mass. This was then conveyed to Meadville or Wattsburg and sold for 2½ cents per pound.

The first school is said to have been taught by Isaac Bloomfield in 1820 in a log-cabin which stood near Tillotson's Corners. The "block" schoolhouse near Bloomfield's Corners was the first erected for educational purposes. There were but three schools in the township prior to 1834. In that year the first School Board was elected under the new school law, with Stephen Bloomfield as President and Joshua Negus, Secretary. By this Board ten schools were organized and five immediately established.

Lincolnville, a village which, by the census of 1880, had a population of 107, is situated in the southern part of the township. Seth C. Lincoln, originally from Massachusetts, settled here in 1837. The place was then a trackless forest. Soon after his arrival Mr. Lincoln constructed a water, saw and grist-mill on Oil Creek, and operated it until his death, in 1847. His son, Edwin F., and others, succeeded to its proprietorship until its abandonment, about ten years ago. Solomon S. Sturdevant, from New York State, arrived in 1837. He assisted Mr. Lincoln in the mill, and soon after built a blacksmith-shop. Erastus Carter, a carpenter, came later, and built a tannery. The village plat was laid out by E. F. Lincoln in 1861, when the village contained about eight families. The Union & Titusville Railroad affords communication with the outside world, and Oil Creek furnishes excellent water-power. The village now contains two general stores, a hardware and drug store, one hotel, W. O. Carter's steam feed-mill, Brunstretter's steam saw-mill, Batcheldor's steam saw-mill, Wood's shingle-mill, two blacksmith-shops, wagon-shop, shoe-shop, a commodious two-story frame schoolhouse, erected in 1883, at a cost of $1,300, and a Baptist Church. A little monthly newspaper, dubbed the *Breeze*, was started in November, 1881, by P. B. Edson, and continued about two years. In 1883 J. L. Rohr, of Townville, first issued the *Star*. It was printed at Townville, and published at Lincolnville. Its name was developed into the *Shooting Star*, which succumbed to adverse circumstances in February, 1884. Its circulation varied from 150 to 300.

The Lincolnville Baptist Church was organized March 12, 1870, with nine

constituent members: Edwin F. Lincoln, Mrs. Charlotte Wellmon, Mrs. Cornelia Nurse, Mrs. Olive Lilly, Mrs. Elizabeth Orcutt, William Lewis, Charles H. Sturdevant, Mrs. Amanda Sturdevant and Mrs. Catherine C. Thomas. Elder Cyrus Shreve was the first pastor. His successors have been: Elders J. F. Bradford, J. T. Elwell, D. H. Dennison, Carey Stewart; then J. T. Elwell again, who is the present pastor. The membership is thirty. Meetings were held in the schoolhouse, located a short distance east of the village, until 1876, when the building in which the congregation now worships was erected. It is a frame structure, 30x50 feet in size, and cost about $3,000.

Bloomfield Baptist Church was organized December 24, 1850, with eighteen members, by Rev. R. D. Hays, who was the first pastor. His successors have been: Revs. C. Shreve, W. D. Bradford, George A. Hubbard, M. Marley, J. F. Bradford, J. H. Miller, C. Shreve, J. T. Elwell, L. L. Shearer, Monroe Shearer and Carey Stewart. At present there is a temporary vacancy in the pastorate. The congregation was a part of French Creek Association until the formation of Oil Creek Association in September, 1865. The membership is now eighty-six. The house of worship is a frame edifice, erected in 1854. It stands on Shreve's Ridge, on Tract 112, in the northwest part of the township.

Chapinville Baptist Church was an organization, now defunct, which was an outgrowth of Concord (Erie County) Church, and which was organized in 1845, in the western part of this township. Elder V. Thomas, ordained by this congregation, was the first pastor. Elders R. D. Hays, C. Shreve, C. W. Drake and W. D. Bradford succeeded. The society has been extinct for about ten years.

A Free-Will Baptist Church was organized many years ago on Tract 37, in the eastern part of the township. Truman Potter and wife, Elijah Kilburn and Rev. Jedidiah Smith, were among the earliest members. Meetings were held in the old block schoolhouse. Rev. William Parker, the last pastor, closed his labors about 1880.

A Christian Society formerly flourished in the eastern part of the township. An old schoolhouse, standing in the northeast part, on Lot 29, was converted into a meeting-house, wherein the Christians, the Baptists and the United Brethren worshiped for many years.

A Methodist Society was organized as early as 1840, near the western line. John Chapin, Hiram Drake, Lewis Larkin, Abraham Bennett and Asahel Hamilton were among the earliest members. The first meetings were held in a log schoolhouse, in Rockdale Township, close to the line; then in John Chapin's house, this township, until 1858, when meetings were commenced and continued in a schoolhouse until 1868. In that year a frame church, 28x43, was built at a cost of $1,500, on Tract 113, in the northwest part of the township. The lot, the donation of Mark Wilkins, was deeded, in 1868, to John Chapin, Lewis Larkin and W. B. Taylor, Trustees. The society was known as Chapin's, was attached to Mill Village Circuit, and ceased holding services in 1876.

Another defunct society is a Wesleyan Methodist Society, organized in February, 1856, at Mickle Hollow Schoolhouse, in the southwest corner of the township. Its original membership was considerable, including Joseph Smith and wife, Alonzo Smith and wife, Marvin Tuttle and wife, Jesse Sabin and wife, Abram Amy and wife, Elisha Smith and wife, and Mrs. Laura Amy. The organization continued only about four years. Many of the members withdrew to unite with Brown's Hill, Rockdale Township, United Brethren Church.

Wilkin's United Brethren Society has held services in Chapin's Methodist Episcopal Church since its erection, and for a few years previous had meet-

ings in the adjoining schoolhouse. C. C. Marsh, Dr. J. S. Wilson, Rev. O. A. Chapin and Henry Wilkins were prominent early members. The class now numbers about twenty, and forms a part of French Creek Circuit.

Maple Grove United Brethren Society, also a portion of French Creek Circuit, which includes Maple Grove, Wilkin's, Brown's Hill, Kellogg's (Rockdale Township), and Little Cooley, was organized as early as 1858. Early services were conducted in a schoolhouse in the southern part of the township, and in 1872 a substantial and well furnished edifice was constructed on Tract 1,570, at a cost of $1,460. The membership is about twenty-five. Seth Pound, George Loomis, Henry King and William Mays were early members.

Near the west line of the township is Chapinville Postoffice, established many years ago. William Porter, a farmer, is Postmaster, and has been the sole incumbent.

Bloomfield Postoffice is located on the railroad a short distance above the lake. It was formerly kept at Tillotson's Corners, one and a half miles farther east.

Tillotson's Corners is a little hamlet, containing a store, blacksmith shop, wagon-shop and a half dozen dwellings. A steam saw-mill and a hotel were formerly a part of the business interests of this locality.

At Shreve's Ridge, on Tract 112, in the western part of the township, is a store, a blacksmith shop, a Baptist Church, and near by a cheese factory, which, however, is now abandoned.

A cheese factory, known as the West Bloomfield, is located on Tract 113. It was built about 1874 by Brown, Obert, Kane & Marsh, and at one time consumed about 15,000 pounds of milk per day, being one of the heaviest factories in the county. It is now owned by Hubbard and the heirs of Farrington, and is the only factory now in operation. Several others were erected, but have since suspended business.

Much of the land of Bloomfield is yet uncleared, and several steam saw-mills find ample business. Batchelder's and Wise's are in the eastern part. Woodward's, formerly a water and now a steam-mill, is on Mosevieh Run, Tract 112. It was built by Woodward & Blade about 1851. Glover's water saw-mill is on Tract 1557, in the western part of the township.

BOROUGH OF RICEVILLE.

Riceville was incorporated at the August term of Sessions, 1859, and a special election for first officers was held December 13, 1859, when the following were chosen: Joseph Knight, Burgess; A. H. Eby, Eli Farrington, Daniel Conner, R. B. Westgate and F. G. King, Council; Stephen Bloomfield and R. B. Westgate, Justices of the Peace; John Himebaugh, Constable; Myron Staring, Auditor; George Metler, Judge of Election; Clark Rice and F. G. King, Inspectors; H. E. Hendryx, Thomas Ferry, Hiram Oles, T. W. Winsor, D. D. Walker and A. J. Rice, School Directors. Subsequent Burgesses have been: Daniel Conner, 1860; Charles Irons, 1861; Nelson Waters, 1862; T. W. White, 1863; Moses Adams, 1864; Eli Griffith, 1865; G. W. Bloomfield, 1866; B. F. Ruggles, 1867; W. R. Lindsey, 1868; Eli Griffith, 1869–70; Henry Thurston, 1871; W. R. Lindsey, 1872; C. N. Smith, 1873–74; M. D. Rice, 1875; George Markham, 1876; E. M. Farrington, 1877; Eli Griffith, 1878; C. N. Smith, 1879; L. D. Davenport, 1880; A. M. Scranton, 1881; J. W. Rhodes, 1882; A. H. Langworthy, 1883; A. M. Scranton, 1884.

Samuel Rice, the first settler, about 1831 came to the unbroken forest here and erected a cabin where the Cummings Hotel now stands. He at once erected a saw-mill on Oil Creek, at the site of Davenport's present mill, and

for many years was its proprietor. Mr. Rice, about 1834, started the first store in a building now part of the hotel. He soon after sold it to Adonijah Fuller. Simon Smith was an early settler. He was a carpenter and joiner, and years afterward removed to Indiana. Russell Bidwell came about 1832, and for twenty years engaged in farming in the northern part of the borough, then moved to Athens Township, where he died. Newton Graves started the first blacksmith-shop. In 1847 about ten families resided here, including Benjamin Westgate, who operated a sash factory, Moses Adams, a shoemaker, and Barnett B. Cummings, the hotel proprietor.

The first school within the borough was taught about 1835 by Dorcas Taylor, daughter of Dr. Silas Taylor, of Athens Township. It was held in a deserted cabin, which stood about a fourth of a mile northwest from the depot and which had been built and occupied by Mr. Gunsley, who had contracted to clear forty acres of land for Mr. Rice. The usual price for clearing land was $5 per acre, including sawing into sixteen-foot logs. Miss Harriet Humphrey and Austin Mosier were early teachers in a plank house which had been erected for the accommodation of the mill laborers. Sidney Tracy taught in an abandoned log-cabin east of the creek, and in 1847 the first schoolhouse, a frame, was built on the hill east of the creek. It was known as the red schoolhouse, and used until the present two-story frame structure was reared about 1872.

Barnett B. Cummings became the first Postmaster in 1847, receiving the mail once a week from Meadville. The village grew gradually, and reached a population of 301 in 1870 and 314 in 1880. It now contains three general stores, one hardware and drug store, two millinery stores, one meat market, a grist-mill, one water and one steam saw-mill, a planing-mill, a handle factory, a shingle-mill, one hotel, two physicians, two churches, three blacksmith-shops, one cabinet shop and furniture store, one harness shop, one cooper shop and one wagon and carriage shop. The Union & Titusville Railroad passes through the village.

The earliest religious services in the village were conducted by the Christians, Elder Fish of that denomination preaching as early as 1838. The Presbyterians also conducted early services, but congregations of neither were organized here.

The Riceville Methodist Episcopal Church was organized by Rev. Forest, in 1849, with four members: J. W. Gray and wife, Myrom S. Staring and Mrs. Lorena Austin. Meetings were held for about five years in the old red schoolhouse, then in a hall and afterward in the Congregational Church, until the present church edifice was erected in 1874. It is a handsome frame structure and cost about $4,500. The membership of the church is about forty-five. Riceville Circuit was formed in 1851 and appointments were made up to 1872, as follows: W. R. Johnson, 1851; J. Abbott, 1852; J. N. Henry, 1853; C. Irons, 1854; G. M. Eberman, 1855; A. Barris and F. W. Smith, 1856; W. Hayes and W. Bush, 1860; J. K. Mendenhall, 1861; E. Hull, 1862; A. L. Miller, 1863; J. Allen and G. W. Patterson, 1864; J. Crum, 1865; A. H. Bowers and E. Chace, 1866; A. H. Bowers, 1867–68; E. Chace, 1869; G. M. Eberman, 1870–71; L. F. Merritt, 1872. Since the last named date Riceville has been attached to Centreville Circuit.

The First Congregational Church of Riceville was organized March 27, 1858, with the following members: R. B. Westgate, Lorin Marsh, H. C. Conner, Thomas Ferry, V. F. Hale, William Mallery, D. D. Walker, C. N. Smith and G. M. Anderson. Rev. U. T. Chamberlain was the first pastor. He has been followed by Revs. J. B. Davidson, J. D. Sammons and R. Mor-

gan. The last is now in charge. The church building was erected at a cost of $1,800 in 1859 and dedicated free of debt in 1863. It is 42x42 in size, and was remodeled and repaired in 1875 at an expense of $2,000. The membership of the congregation is about forty.

Charity Lodge, No. 489, K. of H., was instituted February 28, 1875, with thirty-three members. It has met with prosperity and now numbers fifty-three members. Meetings are held on the first and third Saturday evenings of each month.

John Fisher Post, No. 337, G. A. R., was organized May 29, 1883, with nineteen members. The first officers were: Matthew Merchant, Commander; C. W. Todd, V. C.; T. Zahniser, J. V. C.; T. L. Dobbins, Adj.; S. M. Lindsey, Q. M.; Franklin Davis, Chaplain; D. B. Winton, Sergeant-Major; D. Shreve, Q. M. Serg't. The membership is now twenty-eight, and meetings are held on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month.

Riceville Union, No. 304, E. A. U., was instituted April 23, 1883, with twenty-two members. Of the first officers, E. S. Beardsley was President; Joshua Bruner, Vice-President; A. E. Jaques, Secretary; C. N. Smith, Treasurer; M. S. Staring, Accountant. Meetings are held the first Friday of each month, and the membership is now eighteen.

CHAPTER IV.

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP.

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP—FORMATION—LOCATION—NAME—PHYSICAL FEATURES—EARLY SETTLERS—DRAKE'S MILLS—SCHOOLS.

BOROUGH OF CAMBRIDGEBORO—LOCATION—POPULATION—SETTLEMENT—GROWTH—BUSINESS—THE RAILROAD—PRESENT INDUSTRIES—INCORPORATION—OFFICERS—NEWSPAPERS—THE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES.

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP was formed from a portion of Venango in 1852. It lies on the north line of the county near the center and has an area of 12,580 acres, valued on the tax duplicates of 1882 at $250,753. The name was received from the village, which, doubtless, was so-called by its founder, Mr. Christy, who hailed from Massachusetts, after the New England city. French Creek enters near the center of its east line, flows across the township, and bending southward forms the lower part of its western boundary. The northern part of the western boundary is Conneaut Creek, entering from Erie County and flowing into French Creek. The French Creek flats form excellent grain land, and the gently rolling surface beyond is a chestnut clay, and though producing good wheat is better adapted for grazing. Much of the land in the northern part is low and marshy. The population in 1860 was 1,012, in 1870, 747, and in 1880, 745. The census of 1860, however, included Cambridge Village, which was enumerated separately afterwards.

The earliest settlers were mostly from the Susquehanna, and were of German and Irish extraction. From 1812 to 1820 there was a strong immigration from Massachusetts. Much later many settlers arrived from New York State, and quite a settlement of Germans, thirty or forty years ago, took possession of

the low lands in the north. A better record of the earliest settlement could not be obtained than that afforded by the books of the Holland Land Company, which owned most of the land in this township. The date of the contracts for settlement given below preceded only a few days the actual date of settlement, or only several months, when the contract was made in winter. In all but two or three instances the parties named are remembered as early settlers. The acreage is the amount of land agreed to be granted: Tract 101, Isaac Braden, 150 acres, August 13, 1799, deed executed to C. and J. Snell; 102, David Carmach, 150 acres, October 10, 1798; 103, Edward Hicks, 100 acres, August 12, 1801, deed executed in 1814; 125, John St. Clair, 100 acres, June 2, 1802, deed executed: 126, Clement McGery, 100 acres, August 12, 1801, deed executed to Jonas Clark, assignee; 127, Benjamin Van Court, 100 acres, August 18, 1801, forfeited; Thomas and Bailey Fullerton purchased 100 acres of same tract in 1808; 128, Leonard Doctor purchased 150 acres May 29, 1805; 129, William Findley, 150 acres, May 28, 1798, contract released; David M. Adams purchased 303 acres of same tract March 6, 1807; 130 and 131, Henry Baugher, 150 acres each, May 31, 1797, deeds executed August 25, 1813; Peter Saeger purchased 150 acres of tract 131, June 5, 1805; 132 and 133, Joseph Hutchinson, 150 acres each, November 11, 1797, recovered and released; 134, Samuel Daniel, 2d, 150 acres, October 9, 1799, recovered by ejectment in October, 1812; 136, James Blair, 200 acres, November 8, 1796, re-purchased; 137, Robert Humes, 100 acres, November 8, 1796; 138, John Shearer, Jr., and Archibald Humes, 191 acres, November 8, 1796, deed executed to Shearer, December 16, 1812; 139, Archibald Humes, 150 acres, November 9, 1796; Michael Sherritz purchased 100 acres, same tract, September 19, 1808; 141, Robert Humes, 200 acres, November 8, 1796, deed executed in 1813; 142, no early contract.

Isaac Braden lived near the mouth of Conneaut Creek till old age. Calvin Snell, one of the assignees of his claim, occupied the George Thomas or "sand bank" farm, so called from the large knoll of sand on the place, from which immense quantities have been removed for building purposes. David Carmach relinquished his contract and removed to Hayfield Township one and a half miles below Venango. Edward Hicks' selection was on the north bank of French Creek in the present limits of Cambridgeboro. He came from the Susquehanna and remained in this township till death. John St. Clair settled in Rockdale Township, but afterward removed elsewhere. Clement McGery did not remain long, the farm, upon which his assignee, Jonas Clark, resided for many years was just east of the borough now known as the Langley farm. Benjamin Van Court, who contracted to settle Tract 127, remained only one season. His father, Job Van Court, an eccentric Hollander, succeeded him and settled in what is now Cambridgeboro, but was ousted as an intruder by the Holland Company. He was a shoe-maker and remained in the vicinity till his death in old age. He was very superstitious, and was buried near the State road just south of the borough on a spot which the children for many years afterward feared to pass at night.

Thomas Fullerton and his sons Bailey, William and James, in 1802 came from near Muncie, and settled a mile northeast of Cambridge. He at first built his cabin so close to the north banks of French Creek that during freshets it was invariably partially submerged. He kept a tavern, and is described as a very credulous old gentleman. Among other anecdotes it is related that a Yankee once sold him his own ax for a new one, first scraping the handle to change its appearance. Bailey Fullerton lived south of the creek, was a farmer and distiller, and died at his home in Cambridge village.

Leonard Doctor, of German descent, coming from Lycoming County, settled where his grandson, Jackson Doctor, now lives. He died of consumption June 24, 1811. William Findley is not remembered, and could not have remained long. David M. Adams, by birth an Irishman, emigrating here from the Susquehanna, remained till death.

Henry Baugher was probably the first settler. He patented the tract in the southwest corner of the township, and afterward settled on Tracts 130 and 131. He managed to hold a settlement on both tracts by building his double log cabin just on the line, where the Marcy farm now is. Mr. Baugher was a very eccentric character. He was a carpenter by trade, and removed to Mercer County, where he died.

Peter Saeger was a blacksmith, and died on his farm, which now forms the Sherred and Minium places. Joseph Hutchinson is not remembered. Samuel Daniel, after the courts decided against him, settled near by. James Blair, an Irishman, making one of the first selections of land in the township or county, chose a farm on the clay summit, where the chestnut timber grew heaviest, the farm in Tract 136 now owned by the Allens, under the impression that the largest trees indicated the best land. He afterward removed to "New Island Flats," Erie County, and there died.

Robert Humes was one of the foremost pioneers. He was a native of the Emerald Isle, and came to Meadville in 1796, but probably not to Cambridge Township until the spring of 1797. He remained till death on the farm now owned by D. W. Humes in Tract 141. Archibald Humes, brother of Robert, settled on the Hemstreet farm, Tract 137, and died there in 1806. John Shearer, a Virginian of Irish descent, settled on Tract 138. Michael Sherritz, a German, was a life-long settler near the site of the Venango depot.

Other early settlers were: Samuel Jones, at the east end of Tract 136; Mr. Zarns, a German, on the banks of French Creek, opposite Venango; Frederick Doctor, a bachelor brother of Leonard, afterward removing to Clarion County; John Hays, Jacob Saeger, brother to Peter, on Tract 130; John Weatherby and William Bailey.

Simeon and Reuben Bishop made the first improvement in the northwest part of the township. They erected the first saw-mill and also operated a carding-mill, constructing a dam on Conneaut Creek, at what is now Drake's Mills. John Marvin kept the first store here, and built a grist-mill, which he afterward sold to Mr. Drake.

Drake's Mills Postoffice is a hamlet of several dwelling-houses, a grocery, saw, grist and planing-mill and a blacksmith-shop. The German Lutheran Church here was erected in 1851, a congregation having been formed a short time previous. Among its earliest members were: Henry Racob, Frederick Arnaman, Ernst Hornaman and Henry Steinhoff. Rev. Nonamacher was pastor when the edifice was reared. Revs. A. Beardaman, P. Doerr, Goumer and E. Cressman have succeeded him. The membership is about 100.

The first bridge at Cambridge was built by John St. Clair in 1815 by means raised through private subscriptions. Doctor & Sherred now own a cheese factory opposite the village of Venango, and Y. Rhodes operates a saw-mill on Little Conneaut.

Early schools were rare. Occasionally a subscription paper would be circulated, and if a sufficient number of names were obtained a term would be held in some deserted cabin. Cornelius Campbell is said to have taught the first school in 1808 on the bank of French Creek. The second was taught by Owen David, who was succeeded by David Terrell.

BOROUGH OF CAMBRIDGEBORO.

Cambridgeboro is located on the banks of French Creek near the center of Cambridge Township. It had in 1880 a population of 674 and in 1870 452. The village is quite an old one, though for many years its growth was very slow. As mentioned in Cambridge Township the Van Court's were the first settlers on Tract 127, upon which the borough largely stands. Job Van Court's cabin occupied the site of A. B. Ross' residence, Venango Avenue. Bailey Fullerton moved to the southern part of the village site in 1809, and remained a resident until his death in 1854. He was a farmer by occupation, also operated a distillery. After the Van Court's were dispossessed, about 1815, this land, 200 acres in extent, was sold by the Holland Land Company to Nathan Cummings, who took possession and dwelt in a log-house near the present American House at the head of Venango Avenue. Joseph T. Cummings, a resident of Evansburg and brother to Nathan, became the purchaser of 100 acres from his brother, and about 1822, soon after the turnpike was constructed, he made the village plat. Nathan Cummings was a physician, and beside him Drs. Lorin West, William Killison, Joseph Gray, J. A. M. Alexander and Peter Faulkner were early practitioners. John Marvin and Dr. West kept the first stores, and succeeding them soon after Ralph Snow and John W. McFadden were early merchants. Edward Hicks opened a tavern north of French Creek, within the present limits of the borough, prior to 1812, and Thomas Fullerton was a cotemporary inn-keeper near by. Horatio G. Davis and Nathan Cummings were early tavern-keepers south of the creek. It was not until about 1860 that it began to improve much. The construction of the A. & G. W., now the N. Y., P. & O. Railroad, infused life into the village, and since then its increase has been steady. The first cheese factory of the present system in the county was erected here by George Thomas in 1867. Kitchen Hoag built the first saw-mill about 1847, where Sherwood & Agnew's mills now are. It was destroyed by fire a few years later. George Thomas afterward erected a saw-mill in connection with his cheese factory on East Church Street, but it too was burned to the ground. B. M. Sherwood then erected a saw and planing-mill just south of French Creek and east of Main Street. It is now owned by Sherwood & Agnew and is the largest establishment in the village, employing about forty men. The works include beside the saw and planing-mill, a grist-mill and shovel handle factory. B. B. Reynolds operates a planing-mill and a jelly manufactory. There are also in the borough a ware house, hay press, tannery, marble works, two wagon and carriage-shops, four blacksmith-shops, two shoe-shops, two harness-shops, a leather and shoe finding establishment and a cooper-shop. The mercantile line is represented by four dry goods stores, five grocery stores, two drug stores, two furniture stores, two clothing stores, two hardware stores, one jewelry store, two boot and shoe stores, two millinery stores, two feed stores, two bakeries and a meat market. There are two good hotels, a bank, organized in 1872, five physicians, three dentists, a photograph gallery and three livery stables. Many fine residences have been erected within a few years and quite an improvement in business blocks is noticeable. Among the first fine business structures were the brick banking building erected by the Kellys and the block of J. B. Wilber. A petition to incorporate Cambridge as a borough, signed by forty-five citizens, was presented February 16, 1866, to the grand jury, which reported favorably, and the court of Quarter Sessions confirmed its decision April 3, 1866, ordering an election to be held April 17, 1866, of which W. Thomas was appointed Judge and H. D. Bertram and E. Burt Inspectors. This election resulted in the selection of the following officers: Burgess, A. B. Ross;

George. N. Waid.

Justice of the Peace, N. L. Snow; Constable, T. L. Barber; Council, D. D. Birchard, Able Drake, S. B. Hadley, R. W. Perrin and P. K. Carroll; Assessor, Martin Carringer; Auditor, John B. Burt; School Directors, Jacob Wood, L. M. St. John, William Sitler, A. B. Howe, H. L. Johnson, and J. H. Gray; Judge of Election, D. C. Mory; Inspectors, H. D. Bertram and Price Wilson.

The Burgesses subsequently elected were as follows: S. H. Ellis, 1867–68; resigned during second term, and W. W. Hyatt appointed to fill vacancy; Martin Carringer, 1869; A. K. Lefevre, 1870; L. M. St. John, 1871; J. B. Bonner, 1872–73; S. R. Jackson, 1874; E. L. Crumb, 1875; A. Sherwood, 1876; J. O. Sherred, 1877; R. C. Quay, 1878; T. H. Agnew, 1879–80–81; C. S. Glenn, 1882; A. Sherwood, 1883–84.

The first newspaper venture was made by A. W. Howe, about fifteen years ago (1869). The *Index*, as it was christened, was at first a small sixteen-page monthly. It was gradually enlarged, and, winning public favor, became a well established weekly. Soon after the death of Mr. Howe, in 1872, the paper was purchased by D. P. Robbins, who increased its circulation largely, and in October, 1877, sold it to F. H. and George O. Morgan; they removed it to Meadville. Immediately following the departure of the *Index* W. L. Perry, November 1, 1877, issued the first number of the Cambridge *News*. He remained its publisher and editor until April 1, 1883, when Moses & Wade, its present publishers, purchased it. The *News* is an eight-page weekly, issued every Thursday. It is independent in politics, and possesses a highly creditable circulation.

In the summer of 1883 Prof. E. P. Russell opened in Cambridgeboro a Conservatory of Music. Though only in its infancy this institution has already attained marked success. It has a faculty of six instructors, and includes in its course vocal and instrumental music, elocution, drawing and painting. Sixty-eight students were in attendance at the initiatory term.

The first schoolhouse in Cambridgeboro was located on the A. B. Ross lot, Main Street, opposite and a little south of the Cambridge House. It was a small, one-story frame building, lighted by six windows placed in the roof, this design having been adopted with intent to promote application to study, by withdrawing from the pupil the possibility of gazing on external nature. Early teachers were: Mr. Lowry, S. R. Jackson, Ezra Jones and Polly Reader. This unique structure was succeeded about 1838 with a frame building, erected on the lot adjoining the Methodist Church lot on the east. It in turn was superseded in 1855 by the two-story frame now used as the town house, and located on Venango Avenue, on the lot of the present school building, which succeeded it. The present schoolhouse is a handsome, commodious frame edifice, erected in 1875, containing five departments, all of which are filled to their utmost capacity.

The Methodist Episcopal Society erected the first religious edifice in Cambridgeboro in 1832, on East Church Street, on the site of its present church, built in 1865. The class was organized about 1828, and held its meetings in the schoolhouse and in John W. McFadden's old distillery, which stood where the Congregational Church now stands. Among the leading early members of the society were: Christian Blystone, Eleazer Rockwell, Stephen Mory, Bernard and Rebecca Rockwell and John M. McFadden. Cambridge Circuit was organized in 1831, continuing until 1844. Its pastors were: A. Young and B. Preston, 1831; H. Kinsley and J. E. Lee, 1832; J. Jenks, 1834; J. Robinson and D. Richey, 1835; J. H. Whallon and P. D. Horton, 1836; W. B. Lloyd, 1837; W. B. Lloyd and W. W. Lake, 1838; D. Pritchard and J. R. Locke, 1839; A. Keller, 1840; A. Keller and J. E. Bassett, 1841; D. W. Vorce

and R. J. Sibley, 1842; I. Scofield and R. M. Bear, 1843. This charge was then connected with Rockville charge, but in 1855 and 1856 Cambridge Circuit was temporarily restored, with Revs. A. H. Bowers and N. C. Brown as ministers. Cambridge Circuit, as at present constituted, was formed in 1878. It includes beside Cambridge the societies at Venango and Skelton, of Venango Township. Its pastors have been: J. H. Vance, 1878–79; W. Hollister, 1880–81–82; I. D. Darling, 1883. The society at Cambridgeboro numbers ninety-five.

The Cambridge Baptist Church was organized in Rockdale Township, October 31, 1812, as the Lebanon Baptist Church, with the following members: George Miller, Alexander Anderson, Isaac Kelly, John Langley, James Anderson, Sally Clark, Barbara Miller, Hannah Kelly, Elizabeth Daniel, Christina Daniel and Lydia Anderson. In the early history of the church every member was required to attend every meeting. For a single failure an excuse was required; if a member failed twice he was visited by a committee, which reported at the next meeting. A church building was erected in Rockdale, but as a majority of the members resided at and about Cambridge the society was removed there, and a meeting-house erected in 1835 on Venango Avenue. It is now used as a marble-shop. A third church edifice was built in 1865 on Main Street, during the pastorate of Rev. M. Thomas. His successors in charge of this congregation have been Revs. Ross Ward, John Burk, J. S. Johnson, A. S. Thompson, H. H. Leamy and S. T. Dean. The last named took charge in December, 1883. The membership is 115.

The Congregational Church of Cambridgeboro was organized April 21, 1852, with six members: A. B. Ross, D. O. Wing, Mrs. Maria T. Fullerton, Mrs. Harriet R. Ross, Mrs. Rebecca Rockwell and Mrs. Jane Wing. A Congregational Society had been organized a short time, and had erected a church building. From this society both this church and the Presbyterian Church originated. By mutual agreement the Presbyterians retained the edifice already erected, and the Congregational society at once built a church structure at the southwest corner of Church and Prospect Streets, which they still occupy. Rev. L. L. Radcliff was the first minister, supplying the church several years. His successor, Rev. U. T. Chamberlain, was called in 1856 and remained till 1862. Rev. William Irons then served four years, and was followed by Rev. W. D. Henry, who preached here until October, 1870. Rev. D. L. Gear was pastor from April, 1872, to January, 1873, and Rev. George Adams from January, 1874, to July, 1875. Rev. Dwight Dunham was called in May, 1876, and his resignation was accepted in September, 1878. Rev. W. G. Marts then served from the autumn of 1880 to February, 1882; and his successor, Rev. S. R. Roseboro, the present pastor, took charge in November, 1882. The present membership is about sixty.

The First Presbyterian Church of Cambridgeboro was organized with twenty-three members, April 22, 1852, by Revs. Craighead, E. W. Beebe, and Elder Kerr. The house of worship, located on the north side of Church Street, was erected about the same time, as indicated in the sketch of the Congregational Church. Rev. G. W. Hampson was the first pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. William A. McCarrel, and he turn in 1875 by the present pastor, Rev. William Grassie. The church membership is about 100.

A Universalist congregation formerly flourished here. A frame church was built many years ago north of French Creek. The society in time became too weak to maintain an organization and expired. It was re-organized in 1875 and held services until 1881.

A German Lutheran Church existed in Cambridgeboro from about 1869 to

1882, but had no meeting-house. It was a division from the congregation at Drake's Mills, and rejoined it after a separation of thirteen years.

Covenant Lodge, No. 473, F. & A. M., was instituted July 19, 1870, with H. D. Persons, W. M.; W. C. Gillett, S. W.; and G. D. Horn, J. W. It now has a membership of seventy-four, and meets the second and fourth Fridays of each month.

Cambridge Lodge, No. 901, I. O. O. F., was granted a charter January 14, 1875. Its charter officers were John Greene, N. G.; Bemus Buckley, V. G.; Willard S. Skelton, Secretary; James H. Skelton, Assistant Secretary; George D. Humes, Treasurer. It numbers seventy-seven members, and meets every Saturday evening.

Lady Haworth Lodge, D. of R., No. 121, was chartered February 26, 1879.

Cambridge Grange, 168, P. of H., was organized July 1, 1874, with the following members: George D. Humes, J. R. Kingsley, M. R. Smith, A. O. Rockwell, W. C. Gillett, N. L. Snow, D. P. Robbins, Elizabeth Humes, M. L. Rockwell, Lucia Chapin, F. C. Chapin, Mrs. Nancy Gillett, Mrs. S. A. Snow, Lewis Knapp, S. B. Root, Clarissa Knapp, Tempie Smith, Mrs. M. M. Kingsley and Mrs. E. A. Humes. In 1882 the Grange erected a handsome brick hall and store building, at a cost of $3,500. Its membership is seventy, with meetings each alternate Saturday morning.

Cambridge Lodge, No. 662, K. of H. was instituted May 15, 1877. Its charter members were: D. P. Robbins, C. F. Chamberlain, W. W. Hyatt, J. R. Cease, A. F. Moses, F. A. Drake, R. B. Drake, J. S. Johnson, S. B. Root, T. T. Root, J. B. Burt and D. M. Jones. The membership is forty-seven, and the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month are set apart for meetings.

Cambridgeboro Lodge, No. 181, A. O. U. W., was granted a charter August 18, 1880. Its first officers were: B. B. Reynolds, P. M. W.; M. H. Luse, M. W.; B. Sherwood, G. F.; Rev. A. S. Thompson, O.; E. S. Kelley, Recorder; T. T. Root, Financier; P. F. Sherwood, Receiver; J. W. Rockwell, G.; Samuel Hise, I. W.; U. T. Fink, O. W. It has a large membership, and meets every Monday evening.

Alex B. Langley Post, No. 301, G. A. R., was organized January 13, 1883, and now has a membership of thirty-three. Its meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The first officers were: M. H. Luce, Com.; C. S. Glenn, S. V. C.; J. C. Ames, J. V. C.; M. Miner, Chaplain; James Rockwell, Sergeant; James O'Donnel, O. of D.; B. B. Reynolds, Q. M.; A. J. Williams, Adjutant; F. M. Cole, O. of G.

CHAPTER V.

CONNEAUT TOWNSHIP.

ORGANIZATION—BOUNDARIES—NAME—PHYSICAL FEATURES—AREA AND POPULATION—LAND COMPANIES—FIRST PURCHASERS—EARLY SETTLERS—MILLS—SCHOOLS—FRIENDS—CHURCHES—SUMMIT—PENN LINE—STEAMBURG.

CONNEAUT TOWNSHIP was organized July 9, 1800, with the following boundaries: "Beginning at the northeast corner of Shenango Township: thence northwardly the breadth of eleven full tracts; thence westwardly the length of eight tracts, together with the breadth of one tract, to the western boundary of the State; thence by the same northwardly to the northwest corner of Shenango Township, thence by the same to the place of beginning." As thus constituted it was the middle one of the three original western townships of Crawford County, and included the south half of present Conneaut, the southwest corner of Summerhill, the western part of Summit and Sadsbury, all of Pine and most of North Shenango. By a re-formation of township lines, in 1829, Conneaut was reduced to its present limits. It is situated on the western line of the county, and is bounded on the north by Beaver and Spring Townships, on the east by Summerhill and Summit, and on the south by Pine and North Shenango.

Conneaut was the Indian term applied to the lake in Sadsbury Township. It signifies "The Snow Place," and was so called, it is supposed, from the fact that the snow on the frozen lake lingered long after it had disappeared from the surrounding land. Though the lake was not within the original bounds of Conneaut Township, the latter doubtless received its name from this body of water, or from Conneaut Creek.

The surface is level or gently rolling. Paden Creek flows southward through the western part, and Mill Creek through the eastern part, both entering Shenango Creek in Pine Township. Along the streams the soil is a gravelly loam, and beyond it is generally a clay. It produces good grass and grain; and dairying and stock-raising form the chief vocations of the people. Red and white oak, beech, hickory and other varieties of timber densely covered the surface. Hemlock grew in the southwest part.

Its area is 24,492 acres. The population in 1850 was 1,807; in 1860, 1,867; in 1870, 1,729, and in 1880, 1,601. The population of the original township in 1820 was 562.

Except a narrow strip along the western line, which was owned by the American Land Company, the township was included within the domain of the Pennsylvania Population Company. The agent of this latter company was Jabez Colt, who, in order to stimulate immigration to these lands, in the summer of 1797, or earlier, engaged the services of a half dozen or more sturdy, young, unmarried immigrants and made an improvement called Colt's Station, in the eastern part of the township, and probably at the south end of the dividing line, between Tracts 710 and 711, or in Tract 715. For several years they remained here, but the place did not flourish and the land agent abandoned the settlement and made another improvement in what is now Pine Township.

The following statement shows the condition of the Population tracts in 1812, when the company closed its business—the number of the tract, name of settler, date of contract, number of acres, contracted for and its final disposition. Each tract contains an area slightly exceeding 400 acres. Tract 683, Ezekiel Murdock, October 27, 1797, 200 acres, deed granted Amos Line, assignee of Murdock; 684, Eliphalet Beebe, November 9, 1797, 200 acres, deed granted Amos Line, assignee of Beebe; 685, Samuel Hungerford, November 9, 1797, 200 acres, slightly improved, then abandoned; 686, David Smith, November 9, 1797, 200 acres, slightly improved, then abandoned; same tract, George Cook, March 27, 1805, 100 acres, abandoned; 687, Caleb Luce, September 23, 1797, 100 acres, settled under contract and deed granted Alexander Johnson, assignee of Luce. All the above, except the last named, were intruded upon in 1801, 1802 and 1803, but abandoned after a two or three years' settlement. 689, David Luce, September 23, 1797, 200 acres, settlement completed; 690, John Reed, November 7, 1797, 100 acres; 691, Sam Hunt, 200 acres, and 692, Samuel Hunt, Jr., 100 acres, November 9, 1797, settled three or four years and abandoned, intruded on in 1801, 1802 and 1803, and since abandoned; 693, Amos Line, November 9, 1797, 200 acres, settled and deed granted; 694, John Shotwell, November 20, 1797, improved but abandoned and settled by an intruder; 695, Daniel Casey, November 9, 1797, 200 acres, deed granted Casey April 11, 1804; 696, Isaac Hunt, November 9, 1797, 200 acres, settled and deed delivered to Amos Line, assignee of Hunt; 697, James Reed, November 7, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract, and deed granted Ralph Martin; 698, Isaac Parr, November 9, 1797, 100 acres, settled under contract; 701, John Parr, November 9, 1807, 200 acres, settlement completed under contract; 702, small improvement under contract and abandoned; 703, William Burnsides, August 20, 1798, 100 acres, slightly improved and abandoned, intruded on and again abandoned; 704, Dennis Hughes, October 7, 1797, 200 acres, settled by an intruder; 705, Robert Martin, December 2, 1809, 100 acres, settled under contract; 706 and 707, William Latta, April 27, 1805, 100 acres each, settled under contract; 708, William Shotwell, Nov. 20, 1797, 200 acres, deed granted Shotwell, but land settled by an intruder; 709, Joshua Duly, Oct. 4, 1799, 200 acres, settled three or four years, abandoned, then settled by intruder; 710 and 711, improved by company, cleared and settled by intruders three or four years, then abandoned by them; 712, Nathaniel Luce, September 23, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; 714, Jabez Colt, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, deed granted Colt; 715, improved for the company, eight acres cleared; 716, Thomas McGuire, September 28, 1809, 100 acres, settled under contract; 717, Samuel Fuller, October 23, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; 718, William Shotwell, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, deed granted Shotwell; 719, John Wilderman, November 7, 1797, 200 acres, settled, and deed granted Isaac Paden; 720, Samuel Hungerford, November 9, 1797, small improvement under contract, settled by an intruder; 721, James Elliston, October 27, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract and deed granted Isaac Paden; 722, Obed Garwood, October 27, 1797, 200 acres, deed granted Garwood; 723, Thomas Crocket, September 27, 1809, 100 acres, settled under contract; 724 and 725, Jabez Colt, November 20, 1797, 200 acres each, deeds granted Colt; 726, Moses McCay, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, deed delivered McCay; 727, Thomas Graham, August 20, 1798, 100 acres, settled under contract; 728, John Taylor, February 10, 1810, 100 acres, settled under contract; 729, George Wilderman, October 19, 1797, 200 acres, deed delivered to William Shanks, assignee of Wilderman; 730 and 731, wholly unsold; 732, swamp; 735, Jacob Wilderman, November 7, 1797, 100 acres, small improve-

ment under contract and abandoned, intruded on and abandoned; 736, Joseph Hayes, November 15, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract and deed granted Henry Frey; 739 and 740, settled by intruders; 743, William McKibben, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, deed granted George Davis, assignee of McKibben.

The large number of abandonments and assignments are particularly noticeable in this township. Pioneer privations were severe and continuous. The labor of clearing the timber was extremely arduous, and the soil was often found too low and wet to produce crops. In consequence, most of those who settled here either sold their claims for the small price they would command or abandoned them entirely and left the country. Difficulties with the Land Company also arose, and increased the discontent and emigration. Many were without means, but did not remove until they were literally starved out. In more than one instance planted potatoes were dug up and greedily devoured by these primitive settlers.

The following were tax-paying residents of the township in 1810: Alexander Johnston, William and Samuel Latta, Robert Martin, John Parr, Samuel Potter, William and Samuel Rankin, Samuel Brooks, Thomas Crockett, Henry Frey, Obed Garwood, William Hill, Thomas McGuire and Rebecca Paden. Alexander Johnson was a native of Ireland, and settled on Tract 687, in the northeast corner of the township, where he remained till death, leaving five children: William, John, Mary (Lopeman), Jane (McDowell) and Esther (Crockett). William Latta, also a native of the Emerald Isle, was a hatter, settled near Penn Line and after a few years removed from the township. His brothers, Samuel, John and Thomas, were also here, and made improvements, then departed. Robert Martin, an Irishman, settled near Steamburg, and resided there till his earthly labors were ended by death. John Parr afterward removed from the township. Samuel Potter settled in the northern part about 1799. He came from Elizabethtown, N. J., with an ox-team, part of his journey lying through the woods, with only blazed trees as a guide. He put out crops, reared a cabin, then at the end of the season returned to New Jersey, and the following spring came again to his new home, where he remained till his death, at the age of ninety-three years. William and Samuel Rankin hailed from Ireland. The former located at Penn Line, where he cleared a large farm and remained till death.

Samuel Brooks came in 1800 from Fayette County, and settled on a farm of 266 acres in the southeast part of the township. He brought his goods up French Creek on a flat-boat to Meadville, and thence by land to within a mile of where he settled. He remained here till death, and his descendants yet reside in the township. Thomas Crockett was an Irishman, and settled on Tract 723, where his son now resides. He was a farmer, and was drowned near Linesville. Henry Frey, of German extraction, came from York County in 1800. He was an ardent Methodist, a shoe-maker by trade, and had sixteen children, fifteen of whom attained maturity. He died on the farm he settled on, Tract 736, and his descendants still reside in the township. Obed Garwood, brother to Joseph Garwood, formerly of Summit Township, came from Fayette County. He was a farmer and mill-wright, and settled on Tract 722, where his sons now reside. William Hill settled on Tract 731 in the southwest part of the township, where he remained till death. Thomas McGuire settled on Tract 716, but did not remain long.

Isaac Paden came early from Fayette County, and located in the southwest part, where he remained through life. Samuel Patterson, hailing from New

Jersey, settled on the site of Steamburg, where he cleared a large farm and spent the remainder of his days.

The township settled slowly. As late as 1830 there were still few settlers within its bounds, but as the lands were cleared the surface became drier and more tillable; settlers flocked in, and the well stocked and highly improved farms of to-day afford to the pioneer a striking contrast with the desolate appearance of the country fifty years ago.

The first grist and saw-mill was built by Mr. Paden in the southwest part on Paden's Run prior to 1810. The grist-mill was a small affair, having but one run of stone, and operated only at intervals, when a sufficient head of water had accumulated to run the mill. Obed Garwood also operated an early grist-mill. A carding-mill was formerly owned and operated for a number of years by Thomas Logan.

Thomas McGuire, an Irishman, probably taught the first school about 1810, in a cabin which stood near the deserted Colt's Station. A year or two later Samuel Garwood held a term in the southeast part of the township. Educational advantages, however, were extremely meager. A schoolhouse was built in 1818 two miles south of the center near the Crockett Schoolhouse. It was a log building 14x16, with stick and mud chimney, fire place at one side, door on opposite side and hung on wooden hinges, puncheon floor, windows 20x30 inches, cut through the logs, with greased paper in place of glass, and the entire building constructed without iron nails. Messrs. Smith, Spaulding and Marshall were its early teachers. The wages averaged about $8 per month, and payment was made in pork, butter, potatoes and other commodities. In 1820 a similar house was built at Penn Line, and the year following another, a mile northeast of Summit Station.

An early society of Friends or Quakers had existence in the township. It included in its membership Stephen and Joseph Fish, Cornelius Lawson, Amos Line, William Hill, David Ladner, Peter Thorn, Isaac Paden, John Rushmore, and others to about the number of thirty. Meetings were held at Mr. Lawson's dwelling until about 1840, when a log church was erected in the northeast corner of Tract 724, where the church burial-ground is still preserved. A few years later the society disbanded.

Frey's Chapel is a Methodist Episcopal Church edifice, located in the south part of the township. The Class that worships here dates its origin back to about 1818, when it was organized with eight members. Meetings were held for many years at the cabin of Henry Frey and afterward in the schoolhouse, until 1851, when the present house of worship was erected at a cost of about $1,500. The class then belonged to Espyville Circuit. It is now a part of Linesville. The membership is about fifty.

The First Congregational Church of Conneaut was organized with seven members, May 2, 1833, by Rev. Peter Hassinger. A house of worship was erected at Conneaut Center in 1841, which was superseded by the present structure, erected in 1873, at a cost of $2,500. The first pastor was Rev. Hart; the present one Rev. H. D. Lowing, who has been in charge many years. The membership is about twenty-five.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Steamburg was organized with about twenty members in 1867, by Rev. R. C. Smith, the first pastor. The frame church edifice was erected in 1870, at a cost of about $1,500. The membership is now quite small, not exceeding twenty. The society formerly was a part of Linesville Circuit, but in 1883 was attached to Spring.

The Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad passes north and south through the eastern part of the township. Summit, the only station in Conneaut, is about midway

between the north and south line of the township. A store and a cheese factory are found here, the latter owned by Charles Corey. Center Road Station Postoffice is located here.

Penn Line Postoffice is a hamlet in the western part of Conneaut, consisting of about fifteen dwellings scattered along the road, from the State line eastward, for a distance of half a mile—a store, hotel, cheese factory, two blacksmith shops, shoe shop and schoolhouse.

Steamburg Postoffice is a hamlet of similar size in the northern part, and contains a Methodist Church, schoolhouse, store, blacksmith shop and cheese factory.

CHAPTER VI.

CUSSEWAGO TOWNSHIP.

FORMATION AND BOUNDARIES—NAME—STREAMS—SOIL—POPULATION—FIRST OWNERS—PIONEER LIFE—EARLY SETTLERS—MILLS—CHEESE FACTORIES—SCHOOLS—MOSIERTOWN—CROSSINGVILLE—CHURCHES.

CUSSEWAGO TOWNSHIP was created with seven others by the Court of Quarter Sessions July 9, 1800. Its original boundaries were thus described: Beginning at the northeast corner of Sadsbury Township; thence north to the northern line of Crawford County; thence west until it strikes the northeast corner of Beaver Township; thence south along the same to the northwest corner of Sadsbury Township; thence east to the place of beginning. As thus formed it included the western part of the present Cussewago, the eastern part of Spring, the northeastern part of Summerhill and the northwestern part of Hayfield. In 1829 its boundaries were established as they now exist, the eastern part of the township coming from Venango Township.

The name Cussewago was derived from the creek. An aboriginal tradition says, that when the wandering Indians first came to the stream they discovered a large black snake, with a white ring around its neck, on an elevated limb of a tree. The reptile had a large protuberance, as if it had swallowed an animal as large as a rabbit, hence the term "Kos-se-waus-ga," which being literally interpreted, signifies "big-belly," was applied to the creek.

Cussewago Creek flows southward through the western part of the township, and with its tributaries drain this and the central portions. In the east are several small streams flowing eastward into Venango. The surface is rolling and the low land along the streams in early times was somewhat marshy.

The soil in the valley is a productive gravelly loam, interspersed with clay and sand, while the uplands has usually a clay loam or sandy soil.

It is one of the largest townships in the county, containing 23,776 acres. The population in 1820, as the township then existed, was 642. In 1850 it was 1,540; in 1860, 1,805; in 1870, 1,674; and in 1880, 1,697.

This was one of the earliest settled portions of the county. The tracts in the northern part were located by individuals; the southwestern part was owned by the Holland Land Company, and the southeastern was a portion of the large body known as Field's Claim.

The pioneers came afoot or in wagons. They built small cabins in the wilderness, and for years endured all the hardships incident to a frontier life.

John S Kean

Milling was done at Meadville at first, and then at Alden's, in Woodcock Township. For a few years very little grain and few vegetables were raised, the settlers subsisting largely on venison, bear meat and other game. Food was at times very scarce, and there were instances where settlers were driven to the necessity of digging up planted potatoes for food to alleviate keen pangs of hunger. Wild animals were numerous. Wolves prowled through the wilderness and made inroads on the scanty flocks unless the latter were well protected. Panthers were not uncommon, and with cat-like step sometimes followed a belated settler or frightened children home. Mrs. Lewis Thickstun, while threading her way through the forest to the Collum's, her neighbors, when near her destination, heard a shrill cry like that of a child in distress. Clasping her babe closer, she hurried on while the dog skulked along at her heels. Thinking Mr. Collum's child might be in danger, she told him of the scream she had heard. The child, however, was asleep in the house, but Mr. Collum, with rifle in hand, hastened to the woods. The report of a gun followed, and he soon returned with a large panther, from which had issued the doleful sound.

Among the earliest settlers were John Collum, John Clawson, John Chamberlin, and Stephen and Reuben Carman, all of whom, as the records show, came in 1797 or earlier. John Collum claimed to be the first settler in the township. He was here as early as 1792, according to his account, but left soon after, owing to Indian hostilities. About 1797 he returned and dwelt for years on Tract 29, a short distance west from Mosiertown. He afterward removed to the southern part of the county. John Chamberlin came in 1797 from Sussex County, N. J., and settled on the Jacob Graff tract, about a mile southwest from Crossingville. He first erected a rude hut, and a few years later built a hewed-log-cabin. At this raising men attended from Meadville. Mr. Chamberlin was a Baptist Deacon, and a life-long citizen of Cussewago. John Clawson was a Quaker, and hailed likewise from New Jersey, settling on Tract 11, near the center of the township. He was a farmer, and remained through life on the farm he first settled. Stephen and Reuben Carman were brothers, and settled in the southern part of the township.

Robert Erwin is said to have come to the township in 1795. He settled on the John Mead tract, about two miles south of Crossingville. He came to this country a single man, and was married in 1802. The furniture of the young couple was very meager. For a time they had no bed, but slept on deer skins. Mr. Erwin was an Irishman, a Baptist and a hunter of considerable skill. He remained a resident of the township till death.

Other early settlers who secured homes in this locality shortly before or about the opening of the present century, were the Swaneys, Jacob Hites, the McBrides, Miles Tinny, John Donohue and Francis Ross. John and Alexander Swaney were brothers. They were of the Catholic faith and Irish nationality. After a three years' residence in Northumberland County, they came in the spring of 1797 to the north part of Cussewago and there remained through life. Jacob Hites, a German, came in 1798 from Philadelphia County. He settled on Tract No. 17, in the southeast part of the township, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits through life. The McBrides in early times were quite numerous. Edward, Patrick and Bartholomew were of one family, and settled in the north part of the township in 1797 or 1798. John, Jacob and Neal McBride, brothers of another family, were early settlers on Tracts Nos. 27 and 28 in the south-central part. All the McBrides were of Irish extraction, and Catholic in religion. John went to Canada, and Jacob and Neal died in this township. Damon McBride is also remembered as a pioneer. Miles Tinney was born in Ireland, settled in Northumberland County and there married

Miss Martha, daughter of Bartholomew McBride. He like many other early settlers has descendants still in the township. John Donohue was a Baptist and hailed from Delaware. He settled about a mile south of Crossingville, and there remained till death. Francis Ross was an Irishman of peculiar manners. He was in his early life an inveterate swearer, and seemed unable to enunciate a sentence without appending to it several strong oaths. In due course of time he experienced religion and united with the Baptist Church. It was with extreme difficulty that he overcame his besetting sin. He was often seen and heard, when plowing, to utter the most shocking profanity, and the next moment fall upon his knees in the furrow and in fervent prayer implore forgiveness.

Lewis Thickstun came with his family from New Brunswick, N. J., in 1802. He brought with him a cow and two wagons, the one drawn by horses, the other by oxen. He purchased a farm from the Carmans, in the west part of Tract No. 8, just north of Mosiertown, and remained its occupant until his death in 1819. He was a Baptist, and left a large family which is yet well represented in the township.

The following settlers also came to Cussewago during the first decade of this century: Enos Cole, who settled in the eastern part; Michael Greenlee, who took possession of Tract No. 7, and settled about a mile southeast from Mosiertown, where he remained till death; Allen Greenlee, who served in the war of 1812; George Hurd, who came from New Jersey, and pitched his tent near the center of the township; Davis Harned, a tanner by trade, who settled in the eastern part; Alexander Anderson, an Irishman, who soon after his settlement in the western part removed to Rockdale Township, and died about 1813; John and William Burney, likewise Irishmen and now not represented here by descendants; John Hageny, a Catholic fresh from the Emerald Isle, and a resident at the site of Crossingville; Henry J. Long, a settler in the southern part, and Samuel Lefevre, who first came in 1810 and, moved his family here the following year. Grove, George and Eber Lewis were among the earliest pioneers. Grove Lewis, a native of Bucks County, came in 1798 to Meadville, and in 1799 to Cussewago. The settlers in the northern part of the township were largely Irish, while in the southern portion were many Germans from Lehigh County, with an admixture from New Jersey and from various other parts.

Thomas Potter in 1818 erected a saw-mill and three years later a grist-mill in the southwest part on Cussewago Creek. Robert Erwin operated an early water saw-mill near Crossingville. He also owned a distillery and a little corn-cracker at the same place. Martin Clawson was proprietor of another early saw-mill. The industrial works of the township are now not extensive. About a mile west from Mosiertown is Potter's bending works. Peter L. Potter owns a steam saw-mill on Tract No. 17, in the southwest part, and Bennett Bros., have another on Tract No. 11 in the western part. S. R. Whipple owns and operates a steam saw and shingle-mill. A planing-mill and corn-crusher, and a water grist and saw-mill is operated north of Crossingville. The township contains three cheese factories, one at Crossingville, one near Mosiertown, and Cole's in the eastern part of the township.

The first school was taught in 1804, by Owen David, in a log-house of Michael Greenlee's, a mile southeast from Mosiertown. Fifteen pupils attended. Mr. David taught several terms in the township. In 1805 a school was taught in the Tinny settlement. Joshua Pennel, in 1810, held a term. He tried to inculcate the habit among his pupils of thinking twice before speaking, and particularly with Zeph Clawson, who often spoke rashly and unthinkingly. The master was standing one day with his back to the fire, when Zeph accosted

him with "Well, master, I think—" "That's right, Zeph, now think again before you speak," interrupted Mr. Pennel. The lad kept silence till the teacher said, "Well Zeph, now speak." "Your coat is on fire," was the meek response. Zeph was allowed his natural way of speaking thereafter. Schools were taught in the Potter, Chamberlin, Freeman, Hotchkiss, Daniels and Thickstun neighborhoods every winter from 1820 to 1835, when the public school system was adopted. Among the early prominent teachers were: Mary Gill, Aurelia Pitts, Rachel Freeman, William, Jane and Nancy Thickstun, Minot Boyd, Charles Dawley, Lewis Hurd, Jacob Hites and Joseph Potter. Daboll's Arithmetic, the Western Calculator, Cobb's Spelling Book, English Reader and New Testament were the text books used. In 1836 Kirkham's Grammar was cautiously introduced.

Cussewago contains two small villages—Mosiertown and Crossingville. The former is located in the southern part of the township, and contains two churches—Baptist and Lutheran—a school, two stores, one hotel, a blacksmith, shoe, and a carriage-shop, three physicians and twenty dwellings. A tannery was in operation for many years, but is now suspended. A steam grist and saw-mill was also built and operated by Lemuel Stebbins. It was destroyed by fire, and was not rebuilt. A Mr. Phelps erected the first tavern about 1830, but a few years later removed from this locality. Ephraim Smith, a blacksmith, moved in soon after the arrival of Phelps, and for many years his anvil rang industriously. The first store was started by John McFarland, of Meadville, who placed Archibald Stewart in charge. The title Cussewago was formerly given the little village, but it is now generally called Mosiertown, which is the name of the postoffice located here.

Crossingville, situated in the northwestern portion of the township, was formerly known as Cussewago Crossing, so called from an Indian trail, which crossed Cussewago Creek at this point. John Hagany was the first settler. The place contains scarcely more than a dozen dwellings, but is quite an early settled hamlet. Two churches—Catholic and United Brethren—a schoolhouse, two stores, one hotel, two blacksmith shops, a shoe shop and a cheese factory may also be found here.

The Carmel Baptist Church of Mosiertown was the first religious organization of the Baptist persuasion effected in Crawford County. It was formed with twenty members in 1805, by Rev. Thomas G. Jones, who was the first pastor. A hewed log meeting-house was built in 1810, two miles northwest from Mosiertown. It was superseded by a frame structure on the same site in 1839, and in 1856 the present edifice in Mosiertown was erected at a cost of $1,500. Among the earliest leading members were: John Chamberlin, Robert Erwin, John Donohue, Samuel Patterson and Lewis Thickstun. The membership is now about one hundred. The first pastor was Elder Miller; the present pastor, Elder Charles Harvey, who took charge in 1882.

About a mile southeast from Mosiertown, is a frame church, built in 1855 by Lutheran and German Reformed congregations. It succeeded a former frame edifice, which was erected in 1832. Both congregations were organized a few years previous to this date, from the German element that had settled in this vicinity, and they worshiped alternately in the same structure until several years ago, when the German Reformed Congregation became sole owners of the old building, and the Lutherans erected a new, neat frame meeting-house in Mosiertown, which they now occupy. Dr. J. Apple, of Saegertown, fills the German Reformed pulpit, and Rev. Cressman, of Venango, preaches for the Lutherans.

St. Philips' Catholic Church at Crossingville dates its origin back to the first settlement of this country. The earliest families of this faith were:

Neal McBride, Patrick McBride, Bartholomew McBride, Hugh Carlin, Miles Tinny, John Swaney, Alexander Swaney, John Hagany and Philip McGuire, all of whom except McGuire moved here from Northumberland County about 1798, having immigrated from Donegal County, Ireland, in 1792 or 1793. Services began to be held at private houses a few years after the first settlement, the people being attended by Father Charles B. McGuire, of Pittsburgh, Rev. Terence McGirr and Rev. Charles Ferry, and later by Revs. Patrick O'Neill, R. Brown and Pendergast, of Butler County, and Rev. McCabe and others from Erie. The first church was erected in 1833 a mile north of Crossingville at the present burial-ground. It was a hewed-log-house, ceiled within and overhead with planed pine boards and had rough benches for seats. The probable cost of the building was $500. The first services in it were conducted in 1833 by Bishop Francis Patrick Kenrick, of Philadelphia, to which diocese this mission then belonged. The church was formally dedicated three years later by Bishop Kenrick, on the occasion of his second visit—the burying-ground being consecrated at the same time. The present structure was reared in 1843 and finished in 1848, at a cost of $3,500. The pastoral residence was erected by Rev. John Quincy Adams in 1868 at a cost of $1,400. Improvements were made to the church in 1882 to the extent of $1,830, including the erection of a tower and the purchase of a bell. Rev. T. A. Smith took charge of this mission in 1850, and with Rev. Joseph F. Deane and Rev. Arthur McConnel held it until 1854, when Rev. K. O'Branigan took charge and remained until 1865. Fathers William Pugh and William D. Byrne served till the following year, when Rev. John Quincy Adams took charge, Rev. M. E. Tracy, the present pastor, succeeding him in 1871. The present membership includes 125 families, averaging six persons each, residing in Cussewago and Spring Townships, this county, and Elk Creek and Washington Townships, Erie County. The church is in a flourishing condition, while its growth has been sure and steady.

The United Brethren Church at Crossingville was organized with seven members in 1870, by Rev. Cyrus Castiline its first pastor. The edifice was reared the same year at a cost of $1,700. The class is small. From 1879 to 1880, with union appointment it constituted Crossingville Mission, with Rev. G. W. Franklin as pastor, but before and since it has formed a part of Cussewago Circuit.

Cussewago United Brethren Church, located in the southeastern part, in the western portion of Tract 23, was erected in 1857, at a cost of $660. It was organized five years previous with about twenty members, by Rev. William Cadman, the first pastor, and early meetings were held in dwelling-houses. J. Kinsley and Henry Fleisher were prominent early members. It is a part of Cussewago Circuit, which includes five appointments and has a total membership of 217. In 1877 this circuit was changed from Western Reserve Conference to Erie Conference. Since then the pastors have been A. Peckham, 1877–78; J. W. Gage, 1879–80–81; A. K. Root, 1882–83.

In the eastern part of the township and in the northeast corner of Tract 13 stands the Seventh Day Baptist Church, a frame structure reared in 1858. The congregation was organized the year previous by Elder A. A. F. Randolph, the first pastor. The organization has become weak through deaths and removals, and regular meetings are not now held.

In the southeast part, in Tract 17, is a brick German Evangelical Church built about 1856. The congregation that worshiped here was organized about 1850, and later attained a membership of seventy. Stephen Snyder and Mr. Helmbrecht were leading members. The society has held no meetings for about eight years and is now defunct.

CHAPTER VII.

EAST FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP.

EAST FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP — PETITION — ELECTION — PHYSICAL FEATURES—TITLES—TRIALS OF PIONEERS—FIRST SETTLERS—EARLY SCHOOL TEACHERS—SHAW'S LANDING—PETTIS POSTOFFICE—STITZERVILLE—CHURCHES.
BOROUGH OF COCHRANTON—PETITION—ELECTION—OFFICERS—NAME—POPULATION AND PRESENT INDUSTRIES—SCHOOL—PRESS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES—CEMETERY.

ON the 10th day of September, 1867, the Court of Quarter Sessions appointed H. B. Beatty, Charles Drake and W. B. Brown Commissioners to consider a petition, presented by the citizens of Fairfield Township, praying for its division into two townships, with French Creek as the line of separation. The Commissioners reported favorably, and the court ordered the electors of the township to hold an election March 20, 1868, to determine the question of division. The vote resulted: yeas, 134, nays, 122; and East Fairfield became one of the civil subdivisions of Crawford County. It is irregularly triangular in shape, with French Creek as the hypothenuse. It contains 8,287 acres, valued on the tax duplicate of 1882 at $165,032. The population in 1870 was 741; in 1880, 748. French Creek flats along the stream are rich and productive, and the ridge that rises back from the stream is comparatively level and easily tillable. The ridge descends in the northeastern part of the township to Little Sugar Creek, which courses in a southeasterly direction. Grain culture is the chief avocation, though dairying is not neglected. The Franklin Branch of the N. Y., P. & O. R. R. crosses the township along the valley of French Creek. The Meadville feeder of the Beaver and Erie Canal entered from the north, and crossed French Creek into Union Township, near the mouth of Conneaut Outlet. Slack-water navigation down French Creek from this point to Franklin was opened in November, 1834, but continued only for a short time.

Most of the land in the township was patented by individuals. In the eastern part are a few tracts belonging to the Sixth Donation District. French Creek was the course by which the pioneers of Crawford County reached their future homes, and the first settlers made their claims in its beautiful and fertile valley. Stretching along its waters for many miles, the rich bottom lands of East Fairfield attracted many of the first comers. The earliest arrived before Indian peace had yet been enforced by Gen. Wayne, and while murderous bands of savages yet ranged western Pennsylvania, and soon after settlements could be made with any assurance of safety from Indian attacks the entire valley was filled with immigrants from the southern or eastern portions of the Commonwealth. Actual and continuous occupation was the only safeguard against other claimants. Several of the earliest settlers by attempting to hold two tracts, dividing their time between them, were successfully dispossessed by new comers, arriving during their absence. The lands fronting on the creek, and some in the interior of the township, were patented in the names of the first settlers, and usually in tracts of 400 acres each.

Henry Marley and John Wentworth are accredited the first permanent settlers. Mr. Marley was Irish born, immigrated to America in 1790, and in June, 1793, built his rude, diminutive log-cabin near the creek road, on the tract opposite and below the mouth of Conneaut Creek, where he remained until his death and where his descendants still abide. John Wentworth also came to Crawford County several years before peace was established with the Indians, and was known as an Indian fighter and a skillful hunter. His garb was the Indian hunting-costume, and he settled on French Creek, in the northwest corner of the township, where he remained until death. He had served in his youth in the Revolutionary struggle.

Prior to 1798, several years before, William Dean, Henry Heath, Thomas Powell, Andrew and Hugh Gibson, John McFadden and Peter Shaw had settled along the creek. William Dean brought his family from Westmoreland County about 1795, conveying his few household effects on two pack-horses, and took possession of the land immediately below Marley. He was a Presbyterian, and remained on this farm till his death in 1846, leaving a numerous posterity, several of whom yet own and occupy the old farm. Henry Heath, from Allegheny County, settled on the adjoining farm below. He died in Wayne Township, but part of the farm is still owned by the Heaths. Below him Thomas Powell, from the same county, settled and remained through life. Immediately below the Marley place, Andrew Gibson, from Westmoreland County, built his cabin and remained till his death February 26, 1828. Still further up the stream John McFadden located and maintained a claim. He had a large family, and subsequently removed to near Cooperstown, Venango County. Hugh Gibson was the owner and possessor of the next farm. He was a brother of Andrew Gibson, and removed to Butler County. Peter Shaw, a Scotchman, came from near Pittsburgh, and located the tract above Hugh Gibson's land. He was a brother-in-law to William Dean, Sr., and a life-long resident of the farm he settled. Isaac Powell, brother to Thomas Powell, entered a tract on the the turnpike adjoining the William Dean farm on the northeast. He was an old bachelor, and he and an unmarried sister dwelt on this farm till death overtook them in their old age.

James Thompson, hailing from Mifflin County, was one of Capt. William Power's party engaged in surveying land in northwestern Pennsylvania. One day in June, 1795, they had encamped southwest of Conneaut Lake, and Thompson was left in camp to watch the equipage and prepare supper, while the balance of the party were making stealthy and hasty surveys, through fear of hostile savages. A band of Indians suddenly appeared at the camp and made Mr. Thompson a prisoner. After destroying the camp and scattering the provisions they proceeded northward. At the first evening's halt the Indians exhibited two scalps, which they said they had taken that day near the mouth of Conneaut Outlet, and were probably those of the ill-fated young men, Findlay and McCormick. Mr. Thompson was compelled to make forced marches and assist in carrying plunder until they reached Detroit. Here he was liberated after Wayne's treaty was declared, and made his way back to Mifflin County. Several years later he emigrated with his brother-in-law, Mr. Power, and settled about two miles north of Cochranton, where he remained till death, leaving a large family.

The early schoolmaster in East Fairfield who would not apply the birch to his pupils freely and frequently was regarded as a worthless teacher. The first, and for many years the only schoolhouse in the township, was built in 1802 on the Andrew Gibson farm. Thomas Havelin, an Irishman and a good scholar for those times, was one of the first teachers. Charles Caldwell

taught about 1809, continuing for several terms. He was a cripple, and resided in what is now Greenwood Township. Solomon Jennings held sway a little later for several years. He was quite an old bachelor, and resided in Venango County. Joshua McCracken, of near Evan's Ferry, Mercer County, followed. The school books were the Bible, American Preceptor, Daboll's and Dilworth's Arithmetics and Webster's Spelling Book. In 1834 there were three schools; at present, five.

Shaw's Landing is a station on the Franklin Branch Railroad, in the northwest part of the township. A Postoffice of the same name is located here. This was a shipping point on the canal, and a place of some importance. A store, cheese factory and oil refinery have been in operation, but all are now removed. Shaw's Landing Grange, No. 164, P. of H., was organized with about thirty members in March, 1875. J. M. Beatty was the first Master. The present membership is fifty-five, and meetings are held on alternate Saturday evenings.

Pettis Postoffice is located in the northeastern part.

Stitzerville is a hamlet of several houses and Wolf's grist and saw-mill, on Little Sugar Creek. On Mud Run, about a mile and a half northwest, near the north line of the township, is Jeanot's saw and grist-mill.

St. Mark's Reformed, formerly German Reformed, Congregation, was organized some time prior to 1858 by Rev. J. Kretzing. Henry Stitzer, Mathias Flaugh, James Marley, George Wier, Samuel Doutt and Philip Hart were the leading early members. The church building is a commodious frame structure, located on the turnpike, in the northern part of the township. The corner-stone was laid in September, 1867, and it was dedicated July 12, 1868. Rev. Kretzing was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. Josiah May, and he in 1877 by Rev. J. W. Pontius, the present pastor. Revs. Leberman and Ernst had conducted services in this vicinity prior to the formation of the society. The membership is now about eighty.

Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, located on the extreme northern line of East Fairfield, is a handsome frame structure, erected about 1844. The members had previously belonged to St. Hippolytus Congregation at Frenchtown, and among the earliest and most prominent who assisted in the erection of Sts. Peter and Paul were: Dennis Verrin, John B. Champigne, John C. Vernier and John Le Favrier. Father Mark De La Roque was the first and only pastor until Father Eugene Cogneville, the present priest, took charge. The congregation has been reduced in membership by the formation of St. Stephen' Church at Cochranton, and now includes about thirty families.

Kingsley Chapel, a Methodist Episcopal structure, 32x45 in size, erected at a cost of $2,000, was dedicated in August, 1872, at which time the leading members were: L. O. Byham and wife, E. W. Smith and wife, J. B. Morris and wife, Mrs. Johnson, Henry Marley, George Marley and wife and Hannah McFarland. The class had worshiped in schoolhouses in this vicinity for thirty years previous to the erection of the church, its earliest members consisting of: D. Morris, Sarah Wentworth, E. K. Gaston, John Wentworth and Hannah McFarland. The membership is now twenty-five, and the society is adjoined to Cochranton Circuit.

BOROUGH OF COCHRANTON.

Cochranton Borough was created by order of the Court of Quarter Sessions April 5, 1855, in response to a petition presented by C. Cochran and twenty-nine other residents of the village. The first election was held April 14, 1855, when James Greer was elected Burgess and Charles Cochran, D. M. Devore,

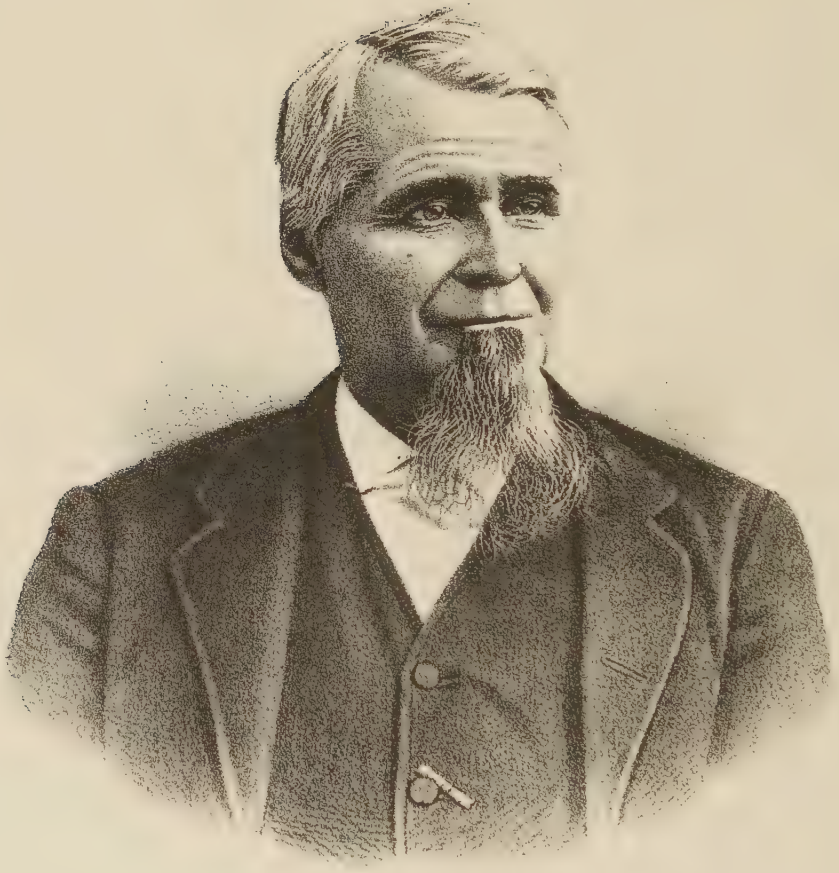
Samuel Markle, William T. Dunn and Hugh Smith, Council. The Burgesses subsequently elected have been: 1856, Hugh Smith; 1857, John Crouch; 1858, William E. Byers; 1859, D. M. Devore; 1860, Henry Sweetwood; 1861, W. E. Byers; 1862, James Martin; 1863, Joseph Evans; 1864, Henry Sweetwood; 1865, James Greer; 1866–67, Henry Sweetwood; 1868, Andrew G. Apple; 1869, D. M. Devore; 1870, James Greer; 1871–72, James B. Fleming, who died while in office in 1872; the vacancy was filled in July, 1872, by the election of Truman Beeman; 1873, Truman Beeman; 1874, Thomas Shafer; 1875–76, Henry Sweetwood; 1877, James Coley; 1878, Gilbert Doubet, who resigned in September, 1878, to accept the office of Postmaster; the vacancy was filled by the election of David Adams; in 1879 a tie occurred in the election, and the office was filled by appointments of the council; 1880, D. H. McFate; 1881–82, James G. Fleming; 1883–84, Samuel H. Nelson.

This is the most important village in the southern portion of the county, and received its name from the first owners and settlers of its soil. Joseph Cochran, son of Thomas Cochran, who had settled in Wayne Township, about a mile east of the village, received from his father the south part of Tract 1291, in which the heart of the village lies, and settled upon it at an early date. His frame house stood on the north side of Adams Street, on the site of Alexander Patton's brick residence. Charles Cochran, who was only distantly, if at all, related to the above, was probably the first settler within the limits of the borough, though not in the village proper. Probably as early as 1800 he emigrated from the Susquehanna River, and settled on that part of Tract 1289, which is northeast of French Creek, now known as the McFate Farm, a half mile south of the village. He there engaged in farming until his death. His sons were John, James, Alexander, Lacy and Robert. James was an early Justice of the Peace, and a prominent man. He was more generally known as Col. Cochran, and kept a tavern and store on the old home farm for many years. During the war of 1812 a rough log-fort was erected on this farm, as a protection against a threatened Indian invasion, and in it the people, mostly women of the neighborhood, once assembled; most of the able bodied men at this time serving at Erie.

John Adams, formerly from Mifflintown, after tarrying for a year or two in Butler County, settled on Tract 1292 in the eastern part of the borough in 1802, and remained here until his death in 1855. His descendants are yet numerous in this vicinity. In 1802 Mr. Adams erected a saw-mill. In 1808 or 1809 he added a grist-mill where the Cochranton Mills now stand, and as early as 1825 operated a carding-mill at the same place. John Adams disposed of the mill to his son James. Mr. Mourer was the next owner, and under his proprietorship, about 1845, the property was destroyed by fire. The mills were rebuilt in 1846 by John Whitman, who soon after sold them to George Merriman, from whom the present proprietors, Smith Brothers, purchased them.

John Bell, a cabinet-maker, moved in about 1828 from Allegheny County. George Henry, a few years later, opened a store. The population in 1840 comprised about a dozen families. The postoffice was at first kept on the pike east of the village, and about 1852 Hugh Smith became the first Postmaster at Cochranton. The growth of the village has been gradual but constant. The Franklin Branch of the N. Y., P. & O. Railroad passes through it and affords facilities which have greatly improved the place.

As now constituted, the borough consists of Tract 1292 and portions of Tracts 1291, 1289 and 1288 of the Sixth Donation District. The territory, except the fraction of Tract 1288, which was detached from Wayne, lies in the



S. W. Kepler

southeast corner of East Fairfield Township. The village is situated on French Creek, at the mouth of Little Sugar Creek It had in 1860 a population of 250; in 1870, of 459, and in 1880 of 645.

It now contains five dry goods stores, two groceries, two hardware stores, one furniture store, two undertaking establishments, three drug stores, two clothing stores, one boot and shoe store, three meat markets and a bakery. Among its industrial establishments may be reckoned a flouring mill, owned by Smith Bros.; a saw-mill, owned by John Nelson; a planing-mill, operated by A. Gaston; a broom factory, operated by the Burchard Bros.; E. W. Shippen & Co.'s dowel factory, two wagon and carriage shops, two harness shops, a stave-mill and cooper shop, two shoe shops and two blacksmith shops. The village also possesses three hotels, two banks, a newspaper, four physicians, a dentist, a good school, five secret societies, four churches and three livery stables.

The schoolhouse is an old frame structure, built in 1855, and located at the southeast corner of Smith and Pine Streets. It contains three apartments, and is insufficient to accommodate the increasing school population of the village. Two frame, one-story district schoolhouses preceded the present edifice. Both stood on the north side of Adams Street, the first at the site of the Cochranton Savings Bank.

The Cochranton *Times* was launched into the world in November, 1878, by R. H. Odell, who continued its publisher and editor until the spring of 1880, when C. A. Bell, the present proprietor, purchased the property. It is an independent newspaper and is issued every Friday. The *Trigon* was the first newspaper venture, but after a brief and disastrous career it came to an end shortly before the *Times* was established.

The first church organization in the village was what is now the United Presbyterian. It was organized about 1827 as an Associate Reformed Church, and for many years was connected with the old Conneaut Church in the northeast part of Fairfield Township. Among the earliest members were: Joseph and James Cochran, William McKnight, David Blair, John Adams and John Fulton. Early meetings were held in the barn of Joseph Cochran, but about 1834, the present frame meeting-house was erected at the northeast corner of Pine and Smith Streets. Rev. Samuel F. Smith, the first pastor, commenced service in 1828, and maintained the pastoral relation until his death in 1846. Rev. H. H. Thompson, the second pastor, served from 1848 to the spring of 1865. He was succeeded in December, 1865, by Rev. David Donnan, the present pastor. The membership is 191.

The Presbyterian Church of Cochranton, had the following origin: about 1848, a division occurred in the Cochranton Associate Reformed or United Presbyterian Church, the seceding members organizing a Covenanter or Reformed Presbyterian Congregation. In 1852 a church building, still in use, and situated on Franklin Street, was erected at an original cost of $800. It was changed from the Pittsburgh Reformed Presbytery to the Erie Presbytery, September 26, 1867, during the pastorate of Rev. David Patton, who was installed June 27, 1866. The Elders at this time were: Robert Gourley, William Smith, Joseph Nelson and William Gourley, Sr. Rev. Patton continued pastor until 1869. The pulpit was then supplied by Presbytery until 1877, when Rev. A. Z. McGogney became pastor, and was in charge four years. Rev. W. C. Wakefield, the present pastor, succeeded in December, 1881. The present membership is 116, and the session consists of Joseph Nelson, William Gourley, W. L. Gourley and C. W. Heydrick.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized by Rev. William Patterson in January, 1839, with twelve members, of whom E. P. Slocum is the sole survivor. The church building located on Pine Street was built in 1843 at a

cost of $900, and remodeled in 1870. Cochranton Circuit was formed in 1855, and has had the following pastors: 1855, S. S. Stuntz; 1856–57, R. Gray; 1858, J. Marsh; 1859, J. Abbott; 1860, N. C. Brown; 1861–62, J. C. Sullivan; 1862, W. A. Clark; 1863, J. W. Hill; 1864, P. B. Sherwood; 1865–66, P. Burroughs; 1867–68, B. F. Delo; 1869–70, L. D. Williams; 1871, G. H. Brown; 1872, not filled; 1873, J. Abbott; 1874–75–76, R. C. Smith; 1877, J. W. Wright; 1878–79, J. F. Perry; 1880–81, M. V. Stone; 1882, George W. Clark; 1883, W. Hollister. The circuit has been frequently changed, and now consists of three appointments: Cochranton, Kingsly Chapel of East Fairfield Township, and Mumford appointment of Fairfield. The membership of the Cochranton Church is about ninety.

St. Stephen's Catholic Church of Cochranton was erected in 1874, on the south side of East Pine Street, at a cost of $1,600, under the ministry of Father E. Cogneville, of Frenchtown, who is still the priest in charge. Services had been held for some time previous at the schoolhouse and residences. John Harding, John O'Neil, George Galmiche and Gilbert Doubet were early members. The congregation now numbers about thirty-five.

Cochranton Lodge, No. 902, I. O. O. F. was organized January 29, 1875. Its charter officers were: Michael Brown, N. G.; Alexander Patton, V. G.; S. H. Nelson, Secretary; M. T. Bell, Assistant Secretary; James C. Patton, Treasurer. The remaining charter members were: L. Whittling, Josiah May, John Burns, George E. Dilley, D. W. Graham, H. A. Johnson, Joseph A. McDonald, Hiram Oaks, Robert Suttly, J. A. Williams, C. N. McDonald and A. M. Jackson. The membership is now sixty-five, and meetings are held on Friday evenings.

Saunders Grange, No. 371, P. of H., was organized October 30, 1874, with twenty-seven members. W. W. Dean was first Master; J. T. Reed, first Overseer, and D. Nodine, first Secretary. A grange store was started in March, 1880, and a co-operative bank in June, 1882, with W. S. Hosmer, President, and J. T. Reed, cashier. Meetings are held on the afternoons of the first and third Saturdays of each month. The membership is seventy-five.

Cochranton Lodge, No. 805, K. of H., was instituted November 20, 1877, with ten members: Alexander Patton, Frank Baker, Jesse Moore, T. D. Sensor, J. H. Homan, J. G. Fleming, E. Ewing, F. S. Whitling, G. W. Slocum and J. P. Hassler. The lodge now numbers forty members and meets every Monday evening.

Evening Shade Council, No. 23, R. T. of T. was instituted January 13, 1879, and meets each alternate Tuesday evening. The membership is twenty-six. The first officers were R. H. Odell, S. C.; J. A. Slocum, V. C.; N. N. Shepard, P. C. and Treasurer; Mrs. N. N. Shepard, Chaplain; Mrs. E. D. Hassler, Secretary; C. A. Miller, Herald; Carrie Odell, Guard; A. Manges, Sentinel; J. P. Hassler, Medical Examiner.

Cochranton Lodge, No. 168, A. O. U. W., was chartered with nineteen members January 12, 1880. Its first officers were: John W. Kaster, P. M. W.; William First, M. W.; John H. W. Glazier, G. F.; C. Baughman, O.; Andrew Regan, Recorder; John D. Dunbar, Financier; Hugh Patton, Receiver; W. Pegan, G.; John Pressler, I. W.; Edward Best, O. W. The membership is thirty-two, and meetings are held Thursday evenings.

The French Creek Valley Agricultural Society was organized in 1877, and has since held annual fairs at Cochranton. They have been widely attended and eminently successful.

The Cochranton Cemetery Association was chartered in 1860. Its grounds comprise eight acres, lying just east of the borough, handsomely laid out in walks and drives.

CHAPTER VIII.

EAST FALLOWFIELD.

FALLOWFIELD AND BOUNDARIES—DIVISION OF THE ORIGINAL TOWNSHIP—PHYSICAL FEATURES—POPULATION COMPANY CONTRACTS—FIRST SETTLERS—OTHER SETTLERS—EARLY SCHOOLS—LOST CHILD—MILLS—ATLANTIC—SOCIETIES—CHURCHES.

FALLOWFIELD was one of the original townships of Crawford County, and was organized July 9, 1800, with these boundaries: "Beginning at the northeast corner of Shenango Township (in what is now Sadsbury); thence eastwardly seven tracts, intersecting the line of a tract of land surveyed in the name of Israel Israel; thence northeast so as to include said tract; thence by the land of Leonard Jacoby and Henry Kamerer to the southeast corner of the same; thence southwardly to the south boundary of Crawford County; thence by the same westwardly to the southeast corner of Shenango Township; thence north by the same to the place of beginning." Its original boundaries included, besides what is now the township, large portions of Sadsbury, Vernon and Greenwood. In 1829 the boundaries were readjusted so as to comprise about what is now East Fallowfield and West Fallowfield. The division of this territory into the two Fallowfields occurred about 1841. East Fallowfield is the larger and is bounded on the west by Crooked Creek. The township includes 16,124 acres.

The surface is rolling. Crooked Creek passes through a beautiful valley from a half to one mile in width, and is skirted on either side by a range of low hills. Its tributaries course through the township in narrow ravines, which were forested in early times with pine, hemlock and other woods. The timber on higher land included white oak, chestnut, hickory, beech, maple and ash. The soil is mostly clayey, and is well adapted either for grazing or grain. The New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad passes longitudinally through the township. The population in 1850 was 739; in 1860, 1,226; in 1870, 1,167, and in 1880, 1,306.

The western part of the township was Pennsylvania Population Land; contracts for its settlement were made as follows: Tract 773, 200 acres under contract of September 21, 1797, to Thomas Frame to whom deed was delivered; 100 acres, same tract, May 31, 1805, Isaac Davis settled and improved under contract; " this man is poor," says the record, "and the contract a hard one;" 200 acres, Tract 774 (partly in West Fallowfield), October 29, 1798, William Irwin, deed delivered November 29, 1802; 100 acres of 784 (partly in West Fallowfield), James Calhoun, May 1, 1798, deed granted Frederick Kerber, assignee Calhoun; 200 acres, 785, Thomas Frame, September 21, 1797, deed delivered; 200 acres, same tract, Stephen Harrison, November 25, 1807, "this purchaser has left the county and the land will probably revert;" 200 acres, 786, Richard Dick, July 13, 1797, deed granted to Thomas Frame, assignee of Dick, December 22, 1803; 200 acres of 818, Matthew McDowell, May 9, 1798, deed delivered; 10 acres same tract; William Campbell, August 28, 1810; 200 acres of 843, Nathan Campbell, September 21, 1797, granted by

deed; 100 acres same tract, James Hill, April 1, 1805, "no improvement making to secure payment, purchaser poor."

As the above indicates, Thomas Frame was here in 1797. He was originally from County Derry, Ireland, but had lived at Dunnstown on the Susquehanna. He left Meadville on his exploring expedition with rifle slung over his shoulder, with a camp kettle and two weeks' provision, but soon after a fire destroyed the latter. He located in the northwest part of the township, and remained a life-long resident. Two of his sons, Edward and James, served at Erie in 1812. Besides farming Mr. Frame operated a still. Isaac Davis removed from place to place frequently, and died in Sadsbury Township. William Irwin was a son of George Irwin, an early settler of Sadsbury.

James Calhoun settled on that part of Tract 754 which lies in East Fallowfield. It is related that in early times he decided to keep a tavern at his little cabin, and he accordingly procured two measures from a tinner at Meadville, and had his three gallon-keg filled at Frame's distillery. His cash assets were a sixpence, and concluding to run the tavern on a cash basis, he installed his better half bartender, and with his sixpence purchased a drink. His good wife, having an equal desire to imbibe, then became purchaser, and transferred the coin to her husband for its equivalent in whisky. This procedure was continued until the keg was drained, when tavern-keeping was abandoned by the happy couple. Mr. Calhoun died at Erie from the effects of the third amputation of his arms, performed in consequence of accidental poisoning.

Stephen Harrison is not remembered. Richard Dick, or Negro Dick as he was called from his African blood, after a residence of some years died, and was buried under a pine tree on his tract of 100 acres. Matthew McDowell settled on Tract 819, northwest from Atlantic. His son John was a Captain in the war of 1812. Nathan Campbell is remembered as an early settler. James Hill removed from Tract 843, where he first settled, to near the Frame settlement. He was a cabinet-maker by occupation.

The land in the central and eastern portions of the township belonged mostly to Field's claim. Of its earliest settlers Jeremiah Gelvin and Joseph Mattocks were here in 1797. The former was an Irishman and settled on Tract 16, in the east central part of the township. His brother, James Gelvin, was also one of the earliest settlers, locating on Tract 6, in the northeast part. Peter and Richard Mattocks, brothers of Joseph, settled as he did in the southeast part.

Prior to 1804, the following were residents of the township: John and Jacob Cline, John Findley, Daniel Dipple, Jacob Hafer, Patrick Francis, John and William Hanna, Robert and Samuel Henry, James Henderson, John and Abraham Jackson, Adam Keen, Jacob and Henry Mattocks, James and Joseph McMichan, John Mason, Michael Mushrush, John McQueen, James Roe, Thomas Swan, John and Samuel Sisely, Thomas Smith, John Unger and Robert Brownfield.

John and Jacob Cline settled in the southwest part. They afterward removed to La Fayette County, Wis. John Findley was a tanner by trade, and also operated a distillery. He lived in the north part of the township. Daniel Dipple, of the Emerald Isle, came from Cumberland County in 1800, and is said to have raised the first apples in the township. Jacob Hafer, of German extraction, settled in the southeast part, where his descendants still live. The Hannas were brothers and Irishmen. Patrick settled on Tract 22; William on Tract 21. Francis was an old bachelor, who made Pittsburgh his permanent home. Robert Henry was an early teacher, a distiller and an enterprising Irish business man; Samuel, his brother, was also an early settler. James

Henderson, an Irishman and a weaver, settled in the northeast part. John and Abraham Jackson, brothers, came in 1798 from Susquehanna County. They were seceders. John settled on Tract 7; Abraham, on Tract 9. The latter was a hunter of note, and helped repel the Indians in western Pennsylvania. Adam Keen was a German, and settled on Tract 33. He was a zealous Methodist, even before he had acquired the English language; to inquiries regarding his spiritual welfare he gave his usual reply, "Just as I used to be; no better, no worse." James and Joseph McMichan were of Irish extraction. The latter dwelt on Tract 843 till his death.

Hunter John Mason, so called to distinguish him from John Mason, of Greenwood Township, as his title indicates, was an expert with the rifle and rod. Michael Mushrush settled on Tract 3, on the northern confines. He early built a brick residence, the first in the township, making the brick on his farm. He was of German descent, came from Cold Hill, near Pittsburgh, and was one of the most active and liberal citizens of Fallowfield. John McQueen, from the Susquehanna, settled in the north part, on Tract 5, prior to 1800. James Roe possessed no realty, and soon departed from this region. John and Samuel Sisely were brothers. The latter was a cooper by trade, and settled on Tract 33. During his last sickness the nearest physician resided at Meadville, and Mr. Sisely expired before medical aid could reach him. Thomas Smith came in 1798, and remained a life-long settler on Tract 21. He was of Irish nutionality, and of the Covenanter faith. John Unger was a Hessian miner of some learning. He came to this county a single man, married Susan Silverling, and settled on Tract 8. So zealous was he for the education of his children that he dispatched them to the school-room at daybreak. He possessed great mechanical ability, and remained a life-long settler of the township.

James McEntire was born in Ireland, and on his passage across the ocean he was shipwrecked, being one of but three brothers who escaped of a family of twelve children. He first settled in Sadsbury Township, about a mile west of Wolf's Point. Desirous of owning Tract 8, in the northeast part of Fallowfield, and fearing that unless he took immediate possession the tract would be occupied by some other immigrant, in 1802 he built a little cabin on the place, and sent two of his young children—a daughter and a younger son, John, still living—to occupy it, while he remained in Sadsbury. He brought them to the cabin every Monday morning, and leaving a week's provision, returned for them Saturday night. In this lonesome manner the two children passed the summer. Indians were quite numerous, and often visited the cabin, asking or demanding food, and hungry land prospectors often stopped at the door. Their requirements were always cheerfully complied with, but as a consequence the stock of provisions was sometimes exhausted before Saturday night arrived, and then the youthful housekeepers, not daring to return home through fear of punishment, were thrown upon their own resources. Once they alleviated the pangs of hunger with wild onions, found in the ravine, but that dish not sufficing they "muddled" a potato patch planted that spring near by. Extracting a few small, hard seed potatoes, not yet decayed, from the growing hills, they hastily boiled and then devoured the unsavory vegetables before they were thoroughly cooked, so keen had the appetites of the children become. In December, 1802, James McEntire removed to the tract, and remained its occupant till his death, in 1843, at the age of eighty-three years. He had lost his property at sea, and was a weaver by trade and occupation. He was also one of the earliest and best school teachers of his day, holding terms in various localities from 1802 to 1827.

David Allen, Andrew, John and James Davidson, Moses Findley, a dis-

tiller, John Kelly, Samuel Lindsey and John McDowell were pioneers who came prior to 1810. Most of the early settlers were of one of the Presbyterian schools. So generally were they of Irish nativity or extraction that Fallowfield was dubbed "Irishtown," and maintained the name for many years. There was a sprinkling of Germans in the settlements, and in later years a number of settlers arrived from New York State. Most of the earliest families are yet well represented in the township.

James McEntire held a term of school in his weaving shop in 1809. A log was removed, greased paper substituted to afford light, and several other slight alterations made to accommodate the shop to its new purpose. Mr. McEntire taught here while his son John plied the loom in one end of the building. Jerry Gelvin, a veritable young giant, whose early education had been neglected, and who wished to acquire the art of "cyphering" applied for admission. Mr. McEntire stated as an objection to receiving him that he was not able to whip him and that he wanted no one in the room whom he could not master, as frequent physicial punishment was then deemed almost indispensable to the proper management of a school. On Jerry's promise to do the master's bidding he was received, and proved a docile pupil. The Dipple, Unger, Jackson. Stewart and other families attended this primitive school. Elizabeth Burns was the first female teacher, receiving 75 cents a scholar per term. Male teachers usually receiving from $1.25 to $1.50 each, per term of three months, often receiving produce in part or entire pay. Teachers of note prior to 1834 were: John McDowell, John Snodgrass, John Young, John Gelvin, Nancy McDowell, John McQueen, Rebecca Fisk, Moses Findley, Stafford Radure, David Galbraith, Ezra Buell, Arthur Minnis and Andrew Mann. Matthew McMichael built a frame schoolhouse and donated it to the public. East Fallowfield has always been noted for its interest in educational matters and the number and importance of its schools. Many of its earliest pioneers were educated men, who were able to teach both the common and higher branches.

About 1817 a little daughter of Jerry Gelvin was lost. She made a visit to her uncle James Gelvin, and was there given some peaches, which she wished to present to her mother, who was then ill. If she returned by the usual path, she must pass a neighbor's cabin, and the children there would probably ask her for some of the fruit. So she left the beaten path and never found it again. The alarm was spread in the neighborhood, and hundreds of men from near and afar joined in the search, but no trace was found. A year or two later, Abraham Jackson discovered her remains, lying at the edge of a large log. They were identified by the garments she had worn. Before her fate was known her mother had perished from the intense cold one winter night while making her way from the cabin of one neighbor to that of another. An infant, which she carried in her arms, was also frozen to death.

James McConnell and Robert Cotton built the first grist and saw-mill about one and a half miles east of Hartstown. Mr. McConnell became sole proprietor by purchase, and Samuel Royer and Adam Stewart were its successive owners. The latter replaced the log structure by a frame building and operated it for years. It has been abandoned for many years. At present a water saw-mill and a steam shingle-mill are operated on Randolph's Run by J. O. Randolph. S. L. McQuiston owns a water and steam grist-mill on Crooked Run, a mile northwest from Atlantic, and the Barber Brothers own a steam saw-mill in the southwest part.

Atlantic is a thriving little village of about 150 inhabitants, situated in the southwest part. It owes its origin and prosperity to the N. Y., P. & O. Rail-

road, which passes through its midst. James Nelson in 1863 started the first store, and a few years later C. M. Johnson the second. The town did not obtain a start for several years, but it has since grown steadily, though slowly. It was formerly known as Adamsville Station. The village now contains three general stores, one hardware, one millinery and two drug stores, a cider-mill and jelly factory, an extensive agricultural implement agency, a carriage-shop, a blacksmith-shop, one hotel, one livery stable, two public halls, three physicians, a good two-story frame schoolhouse, one church and two societies.

Atlantic Lodge, No. 78, A. O. U. W., was instituted with twenty-one members July 1, 1874. Its first officers were J. B. Grove, P. M. W.; J. M. Nelson, M. W.; J. D. Dunbar, G. F.; John Duncan, Overseer; Joseph Duncan, Recorder; William Lackey, Fin.; J. L. Johnson, Receiver; N. R. Menold, G.; I. L. Menold, I. W.; S. P. Menold, O. W. The membership is now twenty-eight, and meetings are held every Wednesday evening.

Enterprise Council, No. 12, R. T. of T., was instituted with nineteen members August 16, 1878. Its charter officers were: A. B. Gaston, S. C.; C. M. Johnson, V. C.; W. G. Gaston, P. C.; S. Gordon, Chaplain; J. C. Hunter, Recording Secretary; D. H. Walker, Financial Secretary; T. McMillen, Treasurer; T. Henry, Herald; H. J. Gaston, Guard; E. Kreichbaum, Sentinel; Dr. S. Gordon, Medical Examiner. There are now thirty-four members, and meetings are held each alternate Saturday evening.

A grange was organized here a few years ago but is no longer active.

The First Presbyterian Church of Atlantic was organized in November, 1874, with about forty members. Most of its early members had withdrawn from the Adamsville United Presbyterian Church in consequence of the opposition of the latter to the grange and other secret orders. The first Ruling Elders elected were: James Hamilton, George K. Miller, John N. Kerr and S. M. Kerr. Rev. Isaac W. McVitty supplied the church a year, then Rev. D. R. Kerr, a licentiate, until April, 1876, when he accepted a call as pastor. He resigned in December, 1878. Preaching by supplies then occurred until June, 1879, when Rev. O. V. Stewart was installed, remaining until October, 1881. The pulpit was then filled by supplies until April, 1883, when Rev. J. B. Fleming, the present pastor, was installed. The membership is now ninety. The church edifice is a handsome building, the corner-stone of which was laid in June, 1876, and which was dedicated January 16, 1877, free of debt, by Rev. B. M. Kerr. Its cost including lot was $3,300.

Hanna's Corners Methodist Episcopal Church, the only other religious edifice in the township, is located in the southern part of Tract 22. It is a frame, built in 1872 at a cost of about $1,700. The former meeting-house of this society stood about one and a half miles southeast, and was known as Keen Church. It was built about 1830. Prior to its erection the class worshiped in a hall built over John Keen's wood-house and fitted up by him for this purpose. The class was organized prior to 1815, and numbered among its early members: Adam and Dinah Keen, Joseph Mattocks and wife, the Siselys, Polly Henry and John McEntire. Early meetings were held on week days and occurred only once in four weeks. The society now numbers 112 members and is connected with Salem Circuit, the recent pastors of which have been: J. Abbott, 1870–71; J. A. Hume, 1872–73–74; J. L. Mechlin, 1875–76; A. R. Rich, 1877–78–79; J. F. Perry, 1880; James Foster, 1881–82–83.

Evansburg is a station on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad, located on the north line of the township. The postoffice is Stony Point.

CHAPTER IX.

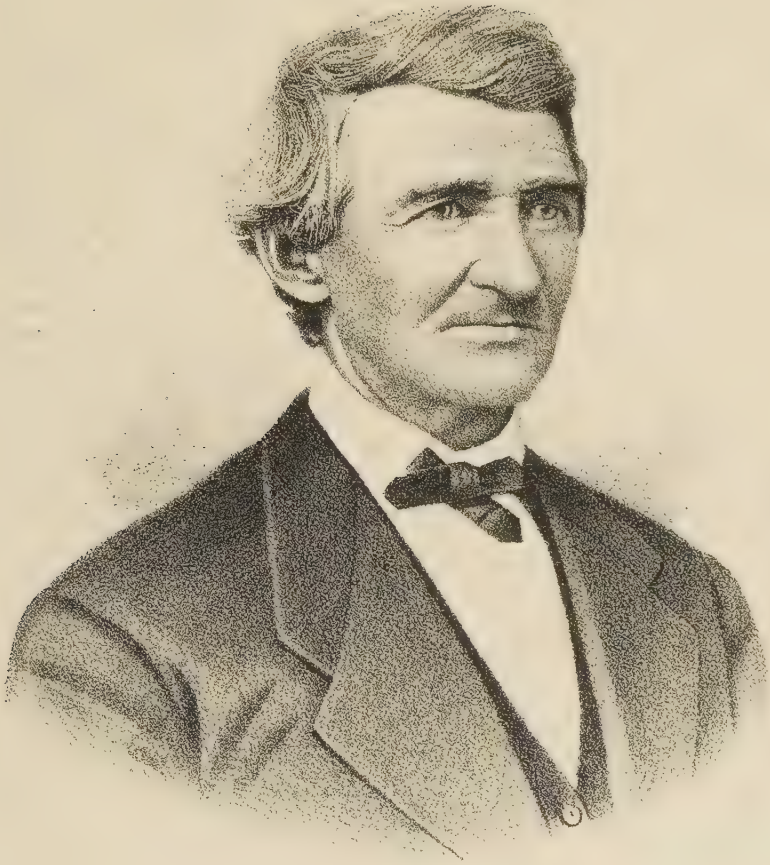
FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP.

BOUNDARIES—LOCATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—POPULATION—FIRST SETTLERS—LANDS—LATER SETTLEMENTS—CONSCRIPTION—STATE ROAD—LIBRARY ASSOCIATION—SCHOOLS—GREAT SNOW—MILL—CALVIN'S CORNERS—CHURCHES.

CRAWFORD COUNTY was divided July 9, 1800, into eight townships, one of which was Fairfield. It was established with the following boundaries: Beginning at the northwest corner of a tract of land surveyed in the name of Matthew Wilson; thence by the north line of a tract surveyed in the name of Robert Wilson to French Creek; thence down the different windings of the same to the south boundary of Crawford County; thence by the same westwardly to the southeast corner of Fallowfield Township; thence by the same northwardly to the place of beginning. With these boundaries it embraced the whole of present Fairfield, the two eastern tiers of tracts in Greenwood and most of Union. In 1829 its lines were entirely changed. It was pushed farther eastward across French Creek and comprised present Fairfield, East Fairfield and part of Union. The recent organization of the latter two townships reduced Fairfield to its present bounds. It lies on the southern line of the county and has an irregular outline. French Creek and Conneaut Outlet restrict it on the north, separating the township from Union and East Fairfield. Greenwood is on the west and Wayne on the east, and Mercer County on the south. The township is generally level or rolling, the greatest bluff extending along French Creek on the eastern border.

The soil is a loam in the bottoms and a gravelly loam on the uplands. In the southern part it partakes slightly of an argillaceous nature. White oak is the principal timber, interspersed with sugar, linn and hickory. Chestnut and red oak are found in limited quantity, and along the streams small quantities of cherry, pine and hemlock grew. The township contains an area of 10,797 acres. Its population in 1850 was 1,224; in 1860, 1,777; in 1870, 871; and in 1880, 929. The reports for 1850 and 1860 included East Fairfield and a part of Union.

Fairfield was one of the earliest settled portions of the county. The records show that the following were here in 1797: Joseph Dickson, Alexander and Patrick Dunn, James Herrington, James Kendall, David Nelson, Aaron Wright and Allen Scroggs. Several of these had come in 1795, or earlier, while Indian troubles were still rife, and when settlements were made at great personal risk. Joseph Dickson was one of the first. He came from Cumberland County, settled on the tract which bears his name in the eastern part of the township, on the farm now owned by E. P. Slocum, and remained here through life. His sons, George and Elijah, were life-long residents on the same farm. Aaron Wright had come in 1795 or earlier from York County, and settled on the tract just west of Calvin's Corners. He was a Revolutionary soldier and came out first alone and prepared a habitation for his family, whom he brought soon after. Mr. Wright's death occurred about 1816. His children were: Washington, Elizabeth, who married John Brooks; Annie, wife of Elijah Crookham, and Catherine, wife of James Mumford.



Gideon Brown

Alexander and Patrick Dunn, brothers, emigrated from the Susquehanna to the northwest part of the township. The latter was without a family. Alexander was the first Justice of the Peace, and about 1816 removed with his family to Shakleyville, Mercer County, where he died. James Herrington settled on a tract in the northern part immediately below the mouth of Conneaut Outlet. He was an early surveyor; was elected County Surveyor and removed to Meadville, afterward returning to his farm, where he died and was buried. His children were: Jacob, Edward, James, Crawford and Mary. David Nelson settled in the southern part, on the tract which bears his name. During the war of 1812 he served as Major under Gen. Harrison, and was afterward Colonel of the militia. He was a prominent citizen, a member of the Seceder Church, and a life-long resident of the township. Allen Scroggs settled in the eastern part, where he remained until death, engaged in farming and in operating a still. His sons were: James, Robert, William, John and Allen, all of whom are now dead.

Most of the land in the township was settled and paid for by individuals, without the intervention of land companies. Much of it in fact was occupied before the land companies were locating tracts. In the southwest part of the township, however, are eight tracts of a considerable body of land known as Field's claim. Mr. Field was a wealthy Philadelphian. The State laws requring both an actual settlement and the payment of 20 cents per acre, and survey fees for each 400 acre tract. Mr. Field surveyed a large number of tracts and made agreements with pioneers who were without means, to the effect that the settler make the necessary settlement and improvement, that Mr. Field pay the State and survey fees, and that the tract be then divided between them. This arrangement enabled many to obtain homes in the wilderness, who otherwise would have been unable to do so. James Kendall in 1797 or earlier settled on Tract 31, of Field's claim, but about 1816 removed from the township.

Other pioneers, most of whom came about the year 1800, and all of whom had settled here before 1810, were: Joseph Bersen, Robert Bailey, Aaron Boylen, Joseph Culbertson, Alexander Caldwell, Richard Davison, Thomas Fulton, John Fulton, Thomas Havlin, Archibald Hill, Conrad and Henry Hart, Nathaniel Marshall, John Marsh, James Mumford, John May, Joseph McDonald, Jacob Moyer, John and James McCormick, Henry Peterman, John Porter, Christopher Wheeling, Robert Young and William Thompson. These were the men, besides the few previously named, who came into the dense forests and amidst dangers and difficulties, by enduring privations and hardships, cleared off large patches from out the unbroken wilderness, and founded the homes which their descendants or aliens now possess.

Joseph Bersen came from Washington County, settled in the east part of Tract 53, Field's claim, and afterward removed to Mercer County, where he died. Robert Bailey remained on a tract situated in the southern part until his death, some time after which event his family removed from the county. Aaron Boylen settled on Field's Tract 64. Joseph Culbertson settled on French Creek about a mile south of the mouth of Conneaut Outlet on the farm now owned by S. McCobb. He was a tanner by trade, and followed that vocation here for years, then moved to Shakleyville, Mercer County, where he died. Alexander Caldwell, an Irishman, settled in the southwest corner of Tract 63. He was a weaver, and during the pioneer period, before carding-mills came into use, found employment in weaving cloths. He died and was buried on the farm. A public burial-place has since been laid out here by John Peterson, the next proprietor of this farm. Richard Davison settled on Field Tract 41. He afterward removed to Mercer County, and there died. Thomas and John

Fulton were father and son. They settled on a tract in the southeast part. They were Irish, and both died on the farm. The latter raised a large family who afterward emigrated to the West. Thomas Havlin, an Irish weaver, settled and died in the northwest part. Archibald Hill, of Irish descent, settled prior to 1800 on a tract a little northeast of the township center where his son now resides. He here erected a stone house in 1816. Conrad Hart was of Teutonic extraction. He lived until death in the northern part of the township, and was buried in Conneaut Cemetery. Philip, Conrad and Henry were his sons. Nathaniel Marshall settled in the northwest part, on Tract 433, where his descendants yet abide. He operated a distillery, and died during the war of 1812. John Marsh was an early blacksmith. James Mumford, the son of David Mumford, who settled in Union Township, was married in 1806 to Catherine Wright, and settled immediately thereafter in the northwest part of the township. John May, a prominent settler, located on a tract in the northern part. He emigrated from Ireland prior to the Revolution, in which holy cause he took up arms. He died on his farm May 2, 1836, in his seventy-third year. Joseph McDonald remained a life-long farmer of the township. Jacob Moyer was a German, and likewise remained in the township until death. John and James McCormick were brothers to Barney, who in 1795 was killed by Indians in what is now Union Township. They settled just east of Calvin's Corners, and James afterward moved West. Henry Peterman settled in the northern part and remained there until death. John Porter, the son-in-law of John May, was a blacksmith and a prominent man. He remained in the township until his death in 1824. Christopher Wheeling was of German descent, and subsequent to his settlement in Fairfield removed to Wayne Township. Robert Young, a bachelor, remained until his death. William Thompson settled in the southeast corner of the township, but later in life removed with his family to southern Illinois.

During the war of 1812 all the able bodied citizens in this township as well as elsewhere throughout this region were pressed into service at Erie. Robert Young, then an old man, was the only resident of Fairfield whom it is remembered was not enlisted. The women were obliged to look after the farms and taking their infants and young children with them to the fields they gathered in the crops of wheat which had been left standing,

The old State road extending from Pittsburgh to Erie traversed the township and over it the munitions of war were transported to Erie, and the soldiery passed over it to and from that place. On this road, in the northern part of the township, Conrad Hart, as early as 1812, kept a tavern at the sign of the Blue Ball. He maintained the tavern until about 1820, when the Mercer and Meadville pike was made and became the principal thoroughfare.

To the honor of the pioneers of this township the first library association in the county was formed here some time prior to 1816, and maintained successfully for a number of years. James Herrington, Alexander Dunn, David Mumford, John May, John Porter, Thomas Havlin, and others contributed books or means with which to purchase them, until quite a large library was collected, which was kept at the cabin of a member.

The first school known to have been taught in Fairfield was held in a little cabin which stood at the roadside opposite the present residence of A. W. Mumford. It was a typical pioneer school-room, a round-log cabin perhaps 16x24 feet, with newspaper windows, the opening made by withdrawing a log from one side of the building and replacing it with paper. A large fire-place, extending across one end, helped very materially to supply the room with light. James Douglass taught here in 1810, and a year or two later Allison Gray. The sec-

ond schoolhouse remembered was a frame structure erected at Calvin's Corners by subscription about 1816. This building was also used as a place of Methodist worship. Among the earliest teachers here were: Miss Urania Bailey, the daughter of a pioneer; John Muzzy, a transitory sojourner from New York State; Nathan B. Lard, of this township and Charles Caldwell of Greenwood. William Little taught in the deserted Kendall cabin in the eastern part of Tract 31 during the winter of 1817–18. Col. A. Power of Meadville was one of his pupils, and remembers the great fall of snow February 2, 1818. In the morning of that day there was a little snow on the ground, but it snowed furiously all day and towards the close of the afternoon when school was dismissed it lay on the ground to the depth of three feet, making the homeward journey of the young children extremely difficult.

The earliest grist-mill was built at the mouth of Conneaut Outlet by James Herrington as early as 1803, and soon after sold to John May who operated it until his death, soon after which event the mill was abandoned. The stream was sluggish and the dam which afforded a water-fall of about five feet kept the waters back a distance of several miles. A turbine wheel was used and with the two run of stone in use an extensive milling business was done. Mr. May also kept a ferry here. James Mumford erected the first saw-mill, and David Nelson also operated an early one on the same stream, Wright's Run. John May, David Nelson, John Porter, James Herrington, Jacob Moyer, and Allen Scroggs operated stills. Alexander Dunn kept the first tavern and Conrad Hart the second.

The only postoffice in the township is at Calvin's Corners. Here may also be found a store and a blacksmith shop.

In the northern part of the township, about a half mile south of the mouth of Conneaut Outlet, stands Sugar Creek or Conneaut United Presbyterian Church. A Presbyterian Congregation was organized here as early as 1810, Rev. Robert Johnson, of Meadville, preaching at this point. Peter Shaw, Thomas Cochran and James Birchfield were early Elders. Other prominent early members were Robert Power, John Porter, John Greer, Andrew Gibson, John May, Samuel Power, Robert Harvey, John Fulton, Archibald Hill and Allen Scroggs. A hewed log-church was erected about 1811 on an acre of land situated a short distance south of the mouth of Conneaut Outlet. The lot was donated by James Herrington for a church and graveyard. In the latter many old settlers have been interred. The lot has recently been enlarged, and is now known as Conneaut Cemetery. The primitive church here was built of pine logs, was floored and ceiled, and had large pine benches for seats. It was large and well furnished for pioneer times. Meetings were held here until the erection of the present building in 1851, nearly a half mile south of the old structure. The means for its construction were bequeathed by Miss Maria Power, who died in April, 1850. It is a commodious frame, and built when labor and materials were cheap, cost about $800. The income derived from the residue of her property, about $2,000, Miss Power willed to the support of a pastor. Under the ministrations of Rev. Campbell this congregation had been received into the Associate Reformed Church, later merged into the United Presbyterian. After the close of his labors a vacancy existed for a time, then about 1828 Rev. Samuel F. Smith became pastor, continuing until his death in 1846. Rev. H. H. Thompson then served from 1848 to 1865, and Rev. David Donnan, the present pastor, succeeded in December, 1865. The membership is about seventy.

A Seceder Congregation was organized about 1834, and a year later a church was erected in the northern part on the opposite side of the road from

Mumford's Chapel, a present Methodist Episcopal structure. Col. David Nelson, James Mumford, David Nelson, Jr. and William McKisick were early members. Rev. Matthew Snodgrass was the only pastor. The congregation disbanded about 1860.

Mumford's Chapel, alluded to above, was erected in 1861, at a cost of $1,200. The class was organized with twenty-five members two years previous by Rev. John Abbott, of Cochranton Circuit, to which this appointment has since been attached. Methodist services had been held in this locality as early as 1830, and among the early Methodists were Newell Bligh, William Hart, Perry Jewell, Irwin May and William Armour. The society now numbers about thirty members.

Trinity German Reformed Church was organized by Rev. L. D. Leberman with five members, January 1, 1865, and the church edifice, a neat frame structure, located on Tract 41 in the western part of the township was built at a cost of $1,250. George Hanes, Henry Nodler and John Nodler were early members. Rev. J. Kretzing was the first pastor. Revs. Josiah May and J. W. Pontius, the latter now in charge, have been his successors. Services are conducted in the German language. The membership is now twenty-eight.

Near the west line of the township, in the western part of Tract 30, stands a frame United Brethren Church, erected in 1873, at a cost of $1,200. The class that worships here was organized with fourteen members in the winter of 1855, by Rev. J. L. Weaver. Z. R. Powell was chosen class-leader and L. Smock, Steward. Other early members were J. L. Chapin and Hiram Powell. The class numbers about twenty-five members, and is attached to Geneva Mission. It was formerly a part of New Lebanon Circuit. The ministers who have traveled this field of labor as nearly as can be ascertained were Revs. T. Foster, J. L. Chapin, B. Haak, P. W. Ish, Bradick, S. Hubler, C. Wheeler, A. Crowell, R. Smith, S. Casterline, F. Reynolds, D. B. Hodgkiss, C. Everetts, G. W. Franklin, S. Evans, H. Bedow, A. Meeker, N. C. Foulk, D. C. Starkey and T. J. Butterfield.

CHAPTER X.

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP.

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP—LOCATION—AREA—POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—FIELD'S CLAIM—EARLY SETTLERS—EARLY MILLS—DISTILLERIES—EARLY TEACHERS—GLENDALE—WEST GREENWOOD—MILLS, CHURCHES.
BOROUGH OF GENEVA—POPULATION—INCORPORATION—ELECTION—OFFICERS—EARLY RESIDENTS—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES.

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP lies on the southern border of the county, between East Fallowfield and Fairfield. It was organized in 1829, from portions of Fallowfield and Fairfield, and lost a small portion of its territory by the formation of Union. The place authorized by the Assembly in 1829, for holding elections, was the cabin of Thomas Abbott. Its area is 19,336 acres, valued on the tax duplicate of 1882 at $359,494. The population in 1850 was 1,127; in 1860, 1,729; in 1870, 1,782, and in 1880, 1,614.

The surface is generally level, but a little broken in the northeast part. Conneaut Outlet forms the northern boundary, and Conneaut Marsh, along its

banks, has a width of about half a mile, and is from 100 to 200 feet below the general level of the land. Most of this land has recently been made tillable by the public excavation of the channel of Conneaut Outlet. The township is well watered by numerous springs, the outpourings of which form rivulets threading the land in all directions. The soil is a fertile, gravelly loam, well adapted to dairying and fruit culture. The principal timber consists of beech, maple, pine and hemlock.

The southern portion of the township is a part of Field's claim. Field was a wealthy Philadelphia Quaker, who purchased a large tract of land in this county, and gave 200 acres, or half the tract to each settler fulfilling the requirements of residence and improvements necessary to perfect his title. Many of the first settlers obtained their farms in this way.

Among the earliest settlers in the western and central parts of Greenwood were James Abbott, Abraham Martin and John McMichael, who paid tax on chattel property in 1798; and Samuel and Joseph Anderson, Abraham Abbott, Robert Adams, Hamilton Armour, Graviner Bailey, Alexander Clark, John Cook, Arthur Dillon, Robert Hood, John Harkins, Moses Logan, Thomas McMichael, Robert Power, Samuel Power, Uriah Peterson, Francis Porter, Thomas Ross, John Sutton, Cornelius Smock and William and Asher Williams; all of whom had settled prior to 1804. A little later John Anderson, Jonathan Culver, Isaac Hazen, Andrew Mellon and Thomas Peterson were settlers. In the eastern part the earliest settlers included Thomas Abbott, William Brooks, Richard Custard, James Hackett, Daniel Harkins, William and John McFadden, James, John, James, Jr. and William Peterson, Abraham Williams, Joseph Work and others. As shown by the above list of pioneers, Greenwood was soon thickly settled. Very few years had elapsed in present century before nearly every tract in what is now the township had one or more occupants, and the fertility of the soil as well as the contentment of the pioneers is attested by the fact that most of the pioneer families are still well represented in the township. Many of them were of Scotch-Irish extraction, while quite a number were of German ancestry. Most of them emigrated from Mifflin, Cumberland, Lycoming and other counties in the Susquehanna Valley.

The only two tracts patented by individuals were settled by their proprietors, Samuel and Robert Power, who were brothers, and hailed from Mifflin County. They first visited and selected their future homes in 1795, but did not settle permanently upon them immediately. Robert Power took possession about 1800, and remained a farmer on his place until his death, which occurred in September, 1824; he left three children. Samuel remained an unmarried man until 1804, when he wedded and brought his wife from her home in Mifflin County, to the littla cabin already prepared in the wilderness. He afterward removed to Fairfield Township, and died in Union September 6, 1848, aged about seventy-two years. He was a farmer, a Democrat, a Presbyterian, and by his two marriages had nine children, six of whom yet survive.

Abraham Martin is said to have emigrated from the eastern part of the State to his farm of 400 acres in this township in 1794. He was an old bachelor and died in 1820. Asher and William Williams, two brothers were among the earliest, but the date of their advent in the new country is unknown. They settled in the southern part of the township. Samuel Anderson accompanied Samuel Power from Mifflin County in 1796, and settled near the center of the township. His brothers, Joseph and John a little later removed to the same vicinity. Joseph afterward moved away but Samuel and John remained in the township through life; the latter was unmarried. In 1797 Richard Custard, a native of Chester County, came from the west branch of the Susque-

hanna, and settled upon a tract in the eastern part on Tract 29, where he emained till death. He here kept the Black Horse Tavern, the first public house of entertainment in the township. It was located on the State road, leading from Pittsburgh to Meadville, and in those times the most traveled thoroughfare in the county, and was a welcome and much frequented shelter for the weary travelers. The tavern was open prior to the war of 1812, and continued probably twenty years.

John McMichael came from the Susquehanna to Meadville in 1797, and in the following spring removed to the northwestern part of Greenwood, where he remained until his death in March, 1817. James Abbott, hailing from New Jersey, came in 1797 or earlier, and his brothers Abraham and Thomas soon after joined him, the latter in 1802. They all remained in the township till death. John Sutton, also from New Jersey, settled on the site of Geneva in 1803, and remained until his death in old age. The entire journey was made in a wagon.

Robert Adams emigrated from Ireland to Philadelphia in 1799, and two years later with a yoke of oxen made his way to Tract 418 in the northwestern part of the township, still owned by his descendants. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and died May 17, 1844. Alexander Clark, a Virginian, came in 1802, and settled in the northwest part. In 1803 Francis Porter emigrated from Cumberland County. He settled on the tract upon which the Presbyterian Church now stands. William Brooks emigrated from Ireland to Philadelphia in 1798, thence in company with John Cook and family and John McDermont he emigrated to South Shenango Township, and in 1808 he came to Greenwood. He was a soldier in 1812, and in 1813 removed to Geneva, where he died. John Cook also settled in Greenwood on Tract 18. He was an Irishman and a life-long citizen.

Hamilton Armour was of Irish extraction, and settled in the southern part. Graviner Bailey died about 1812, leaving a family, which soon after left this vicinity and became scattered. Arthur Dillon was an Irishman of roving proclivities, married but childless. He died in Mercer County. Robert Hood settled in the western part of the township. Daniel Harkins, brother of John, was also an early settler. Moses Logan was Justice of the Peace in 1810, and for many years thereafter. James Peterson, father of Uriah, was originally from New Jersey, but directly from Fayette County. He settled in the eastern part of the township, where he died in extreme old age, leaving a numerous posterity. Thomas Ross came to the township a single man, and like all other bachelors in those days paid a tax for enjoying the state of single blessedness. James Hackett was an old bachelor. Abraham Williams settled on a tract of land located near the township center. Joseph Thatcher came from Washington County in 1810 with his family and wife's sister's family, the journey from Pittsburgh being made on horseback. He died in 1862, aged seventy-two years.

The settlements in Greenwood, like those of other parts of the county, were not without their early mills. The first saw and grist-mill was started on McMichael's Run by John McMichael in 1799. A mill has ever since been in operation on its site, and is still owned by the McMichaels. Mellon's Mill and others were afterward built on the same stream. James Peterson built the first grist-mill in the eastern part, the date of its erection preceding the year 1812. It was used until 1840. William Williams operated a saw-mill in the south part of the township prior to 1810.

Thomas Ross was probably the first distiller, having a still in operation prior to 1804. Robert Power, Richard Custard and Samuel Power also had

distilleries. In those days if a settler made any pretentions to respectability in the popular estimation he must have at his cabin a barrel of whisky for his own use and the entertainment of his visitors. The article was then cheap, and the copper stills were usually operated steadily during the winter season. Some distillers had one and others had two stills. Their capacity per week was from twelve to thirty bushels of rye, this being the only grain used. A bushel of rye would yield three gallons of distilled spirits. What little remained after the home trade was supplied found a ready sale at Pittsburgh or at Erie.

James McEntire taught school near McMichael's Mill in 1807. Sarah McQueen, the Adamses, McMichaels, Mellons and others attended. George Cather was also one of the early teachers in the township. He held a school in a log-cabin near the Custard place. Colvin Hatch taught a term in the northeast part of the township about 1821, and the year following John Limber instructed the youth in that vicinity. Betsy Quigley, sister to John Quigley, of Watson's Run, held a term about two miles west of Geneva in a log schoolhouse in 1817, and the next year John Andreas taught in the same place.

Glendale—Custard's Postoffice—is a hamlet in the northeast part of the township. It contains two harness shops, two blacksmith shops, two stores, a steam and water grist-mill and saw-mill owned by Sylvester Loper and Joseph Williams, and a few dwellings. Ezra Peterson built the first saw-mill at this place.

West Greenwood Postoffice is located in the extreme western part of the township.

J. J. Coulter now owns and operates the grist-mill formerly known as McMichael's. William Mellon owns a saw and grist-mill on McMichael's Run. Charles McMichael operates a saw-mill near the railroad about a mile west of Geneva, and Hunter & Hall have one in the interior of the township.

Greenfield Presbyterian Church was organized June 22, 1854, with twenty members. Rev. James Coulter supplied the charge for a time, and Rev. George Scott, the first pastor, was installed June 27, 1860, and released June 10, 1862. His successor, Rev. David Waggoner, was installed July 1, 1864. The congregation has since been supplied, Rev. I. W. McVitty being the last minister in charge. The church building was erected at a cost of $1,500 the year of organization. It is located in the southwest part of the township, and was repaired in the fall of 1883. Regular services have not been held for several years on account of a diminished congregation. Elliott Logan and John R. Slaven were the two first Elders. J. H. Tiffany, James Hamilton and T. J. Miller have since been elected, Mr. Miller being now the only Elder remaining in the congregation.

Greenwood Free-Will Baptist Church was organized with six members January 22, 1832, by Rev. George Collins, the first pastor. The first members were Caleb and Margaret Newbold, Jacob H. Bortner, Jacob and Nancy Cook and A. Turner. Early meetings were held in private houses and schoolhouses, and a log church was built about 1843 at the east line of Tract 37, in the south central part of the township. It was superseded in 1874 by a handsome brick structure, 40x50 feet, erected at a cost of $3,500. The present membership is ninety. Among its pastors have been Elders George Collins, James Haskin, William Ray, Rittenhouse, John C. Manning, Harvey, Gill, J. C. Nye, A. C. Bush, J. B. Page and L. F. Sherritt.

At Peterson's Schoolhouse, in the eastern part of the township, a United Brethren class numbering seventeen meets for worship. It was organized

about 1868, and among its early members were Ragan Peterson, the first class-leader; Darius William, Steward; William Loper, David Phillips and William P. Biles. The class is connected with Geneva Mission Station. A society of this denomination flourished in this locality many years ago.

BOROUGH OF GENEVA.

Geneva, a borough of about 400 people, 346 by the census of 1880, is situated in the northern part of Greenwood Township. A petition praying for its incorporation and signed by thirty-two citizens representing that the proposed borough contained not more than forty-six free-holders; was filed August 10, 1871. It was approved by the grand jury November 9, 1871, and the report confirmed by the Court January 23, 1872. It was further directed that the first election be held at the schoolhouse on the third Friday of March, 1872, and for that purpose William W. Gelvin was appointed to give due notice of the election. DeWitt Harroun was appointed Judge, and William Billings and Alfred M. Abbott, Inspectors. The first officers were Jonathan Smock, Burgess; J. D. Christ, Cyrus Carman, Cyrus Adsit, D. E. Smith and J. H. Tiffany, Council; J. H. Tiffany, Clerk; James Hood, Constable. Subsequent Burgesses have been D. W. Harroun, 1873–74; A. B. Cushman, 1875; W. W. Gelvin, 1876; R. U. McEntire, 1877–78; J. D. Christ, 1879; W. H. Graham, 1880; R. U. McEntire, 1881–82–83; J. D. Christ, 1884.

In 1863, when the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad was constructed, Sutton's Corners, as the place was then called, contained seven or eight families. Peter and Sylvester, in the spring of 1860, had started the first little store, teaming the goods from Meadville; the establishment changed ownership several times in as many years. Miller Sutton was blacksmithing in a little shop on the site of Armour's Hotel, the southwest corner of Main and Center Streets, and several farmers and laborers were living on the site of the village. John Sutton and John Gelvin were the proprietors of farms comprising what is now the south part of the village, Sutton west and Gelvin east of Main Street, while the north part was owned by C. G. Bolster and J. D. Christ. Since the railroad was completed the progress of the village has been steady, and it now contains six general stores, a drug store, a furniture store, three hotels, a harness shop, two shoe shops, four blacksmith shops, three wagon shops, a stave factory, a planing-mill and manufactory of horse rakes, washing-machines, picket fences, etc., started by Alfred and Daniel Hafer about 1873 (now owned by D. E. Smith), two physicians, a graded school, two churches and two societies.

The first school was a frame one-story building, erected in early times on the southeast corner of Main and Center Streets. The second was also a one-story frame, built about 1851, and superseded, in 1866, by the present schoolhouse. Jonathan Christ was the first Postmaster, followed by John Gelvin, who kept the office for many years at his residence, a short distance east of the village. Peter Ross followed, then D. W. Harroun, the present Postmaster.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Geneva is the succession of a class which met and worshiped, as early as 1820, in a schoolhouse located about a mile east of Geneva. A log church was afterward built just east of the borough, succeeded by a frame church on the same locality, built about 1843. The present building in Geneva, a frame 40x50, was completed in 1858, at a cost of $1,200. It was commenced a year or two earlier, during the ministry of Rev. Isaiah Lane. Thomas Abbott, Wyram Newton and John Sutton were early members. In its earliest history this appointment was connected with Salem, Mercer County, Circuit. It is now a part of Evansburg Circuit.

J. C. Corbin

The United Brethren Church was organized in 1870, with four members: J. D. Christ, F. D. Gill and T. P. Abbott and wife. The first meetings were held in the schoolhouse, and in 1871–72 the meeting-house, a neat brick structure, 36x48, was erected on a lot donated by John Gelvin, at a cost of about $3,000. It was dedicated October 5, 1872, Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner officiating. The membership is about forty. The pastors of the church have been Revs. P. W. Ish, Frank Reynolds, Rufus Smith, Charles Evarts, Samuel Evans, G. W. Franklin, Hiram Bedow, A. Meeker, N. C. Foulk, D. C. Starkey and T. J. Butterfield.

Geneva Lodge, No. 408, K. of P., was instituted September 27, 1873, with ten members: W. W. Gelvin, D. W. Harroun, C. McMichael, L. D. Strayer, B. Sutton, H. W. Sutton, W. A. McKay, W. K. Bolster, A. B. Cushman and J. Carman. One hundred and thirty-one members have been initiated, and the membership is now seventy. Meetings are held every Saturday evening.

Ora Fina Lodge, No. 1006, K. of H., was instituted April 2, 1878, with eleven members: D. W. Harroun, W. W. Gelvin, W. H. Graham, A. W. Brown, F. P. Scowden, C. A. McEntire, G. W. Foulk, R. B. Clover, James Carman, R. H. Coulter and F. P. Andrews. Two members have been lost by death, and fifteen are now connected with the Lodge. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month.

Lodges of Good Templars and E. A. U. formerly existed at Geneva, but have since disbanded.

CHAPTER XI.

HAYFIELD TOWNSHIP.

ORGANIZATION—AREA—PHYSICAL FEATURES—POPULATION—EARLY SETTLERS —LAND TITLES—PIONEER TRIALS — MILLS — SCHOOLS — CHURCHES — HAYFIELD — COON'S CORNERS—NORRISVILLE.

HAYFIELD TOWNSHIP was organized in 1829 from parts of Mead, Venango, Cussewago and Sadsbury. The original corner of these four townships was an oak tree formerly standing in the road near the Dunn Schoolhouse. The cabin of Gideon Dunn was the first place of holding elections. Hayfield is an interior township, lying a little northwest of the center of the county. Its area is 22,724 square acres. The surface is drained by French Creek, the eastern boundary, and by Cussewago Creek, which flows southwardly a little west of the township center, together with their tributaries. In the valleys is found a black loam soil, while on the ridge it is gravelly. The entire surface was heavily timbered when the first settlers arrived, white oak prevailing in the valleys, and hickory, chestnut, oak and other varieties on the more elevated land. The crops in early times were not as heavy as now, fertilizers having increased the productiveness of the soil. The population of Hayfield in 1850 was 1,723; in 1860, 1,867; in 1870, 1,824, and in 1880, 1,954.

Bounded as it is on one side by French Creek, the principal stream of the county, and located near the site of the first settlement in the county, Hayfield Township attracted to its valleys some of the foremost Western adventurers. Several tracts were surveyed within its bounds by individuals while yet Indian hostilities rendered their occupation impossible. None came

earlier than James Dickson. He was born near Dumfries, Scotland, and in 1785 emigrated with his wife and two children to America. Landing at Philadelphia, he proceeded at once to Pittsburgh, where he remained till the spring of 1793. He resolved to secure a home under the provisions of the act of the Legislature passed the year previous, and accordingly traveled afoot from Pittsburgh to Meadville, and located a tract of 400 acres on the west bank of French Creek, four miles above Meadville, in what is now Hayfield Township. He also located 400 acres just south of it for his eldest son, Robert, and and afterward purchased it. He remained at Meadville during the summer of 1793 cultivating, in connection with William Jones, a field of corn and potatoes on the island, and in the fall returned to Pittsburgh. In the spring of 1794 he removed his family by keelboat up the Allegheny and French Creek, and the boat capsizing, lost all his household goods and clothing on the way. For two years he remained at the old block-house at Meadville, and August 10, 1794, was severely wounded by the savages near the block-house as related in another chapter of this volume. In the spring of 1796, Wayne's Treaty of Greenville having rendered settlements possible, he removed with his family to a little cabin on his tract and remained till his death, which occurred August 3, 1825, in his seventy-fourth year. He was a member of the Meadville Presbyterian Church. His family consisted of eight children: Jeannette (Culbertson), Robert, James, Joseph, Barbara, Mary (Andrews), William and John. Robert and Joseph served in the war of 1812 at Erie. The latter is the sole survivor of the family, and resides at Meadville—the oldest resident of the county. He was born February 12, 1790, and retains his mental faculties almost unimpaired.

The year 1796 brought several other families within the domain of Hayfield. William Gill, a Scotchman, had located a tract adjoining Dickson's on the north, and took possession in the spring of 1796, after a residence at Meadville. Of his three sons, Robert, the eldest, was in service at Erie. Hugh Logue, a native of Ireland, settled in 1796 on Lot 88, north of Gill's tract. He was well advanced in life at that time, and was accompanied by his adult family. Still farther north on Lot 89, opposite Saegertown, about the same time, the Brookhousers—Adam and Jacob—settled. They were Germans.

Near the southeast corner of the township, Roderick Frazier had located a tract on French Creek as early as 1793. He was a Scotchman, a bachelor, and was in the English service at the fall of Quebec. After remaining at Meadville a year or two, in 1796 he took possession of his land, and remained there till death, living to the age of over one hundred years. Roderick Frazier, second, no kin to the above, was also a Scotchman from near Inverness. He was a British soldier during the Revolution, but deserted to the American side. In 1806 he came to this township and settled on the tract of Roderick Frazier, first, supporting the old man in his advanced life and purchasing the tract, a part of which his descendants yet own.

James Dunn, from New Jersey, in 1797, settled on Tract 2, near Coon's Corners. He was a Justice of the Peace while this county was a portion of Allegheny, and later in life became a Baptist minister. He was buried on his farm, and his descendants are still found in that vicinity. Isaac and George Mason about the same time made a settlement on Brookhouser's Run, about one and a half miles northwest from Saegertown. They hailed from the Youghiogheny. Isaac was a Captain of a company from this county in service at Erie during the war of 1812. David Mason, their brother, settled on the hills in the east part of the township. William McElvey was one of the first settlers in the same region, about a mile northwest from the Dickson farm. He

remained there through life. In the southeast part of the township Martha Ouray lived with her brother, George Ouray, extremely early. She purchased 100 acres, and a little later married Daniel Kilday, a native of the Emerald Isle. Robert Kilpatrick, an Irish bachelor, resided near by on Tract 85.

Phillip Dunn, brother of James Dunn, in 1802 settled on Tract 39 on the Cussewago. Other early settlers about the same time or a little later were James Irwin, southeast from Coon's Corners; Conrad Cole, who became quite wealthy, remaining on his farm in the southern part of the township till death; David Yerty, a German, and David Morris, a Welshman, both in the southern part of the township; in the northeast part Isaac, John and Jonathan Allee; Thomas Campbell, from Westmoreland County, an early Justice of the Peace; David and William Carmach, Isaac Davis, Jedidiah Freeman, David Gehr, Frederick Hickernell, Jacob Huffman, Isaac Hunt and Jacob Peters, Jr. In the northwest part John Meeker, a shoe-maker, and Caleb and John Meeker, Sr., Peter Forman on the Cussewago; George, James and Eber Lewis, brothers, between the Cussewago and French Creek; Joshua and John Keeler, Germans; John, Peter and Frederick Bailor, Thomas Osborn and Henry Richard.

Most of Hayfield consists of Holland Land Company tracts. The records of this company show the first contracts made for settlement on each tract. One hundred acres were usually granted for fulfilling the conditions of residence and improvements, but the settler generally purchased in addition fifty or 100 acres. Below are given the list of contracts for land in what is now Hayfield. In most cases the tracts were settled by the parties contracting within a few days.

Tract 19, John Hutton, 150 acres, August 9, 1799; Tract 20, James Baker, 100 acres, June 17, 1797, deed executed to James McMillan, assignee of Baker, September, 1813; Tract 21, Patrick Rice, 150 acres, December 24, 1799, forfeited by non-compliance; Tract 23, John Parker, 150 acres, July 13, 1798, deed for 100 acres executed August 29, 1805; Tract 24, Michael Seely, 150 acres, September 30, 1799, deed executed to Daniel Lefevre, assignee; Tract 25, Thomas Rogers, 150 acres, August 10, 1799, deed delivered to Gen. John Wilkins, assignee, September 2, 1808; Tract 27, John Parker, 100 acres, July 12, 1798; Tract 28, James Allison, 100 acres, July 14, 1798; Tract 29, Robert Kilpatrick, 150 acres, October 11, 1797, deed executed April 22, 1807; Tract 31, Alexander Freeman, 150 acres, August 16, 1799, deed executed January 15, 1807; Tract 32, Adam A. and D. Jan Nieuwenhuizen, 150 acres, August 10, 1799, deed executed to Henry Escher, assignee; Tract 33, Robert Kilpatrick, 150 acres, August 5, 1799, deed executed August 13, 1803; Tract 35, Alexander Freeman, 150 acres, August 16, 1799, deed granted January 15, 1807; Tract 36, Derk J. Nieuwenhuizen, 150 acres, August 10, 1799, deed executed to Henry Escher, asignee; Tract 37, Thomas Holton, 150 acres, September 13, 1799; Tract 39, David Gehr, 150 acres, August 23, 1799, assigned David Yerty, October 23, 1802; Tract 40, Leonard Brown, 150 acres, August 10, 1799, settlement made by William B. Foster, assignee, by mistake on Tract 44, for land on which tract deed was delivered; Tract 42, Azel Freeman, 150 acres, September 13, 1799, deed executed to Randolph Freeman, assignee, July 15, 1812; Tract 43, Randolph Freeman, 150 acres, March 29, 1800, deed executed July 7, 1808; Tract 44, Joseph Dennison, 150 acres, May 30, 1798, deed executed June 12, 1815; Tract 46, Joseph Mason, 150 acres, May 24, 1798, assigned to John Williams; Tract 47, Randolph Freeman, 150 acres, March 29, 1800, deed executed July 7, 1808; Tract 48, Lewis Harring, 100 acres, September 3, 1801, assigned to Archibald Davidson, and by him in 1802

to Conrad Cole, deed executed January 10, 1805; Tract 50, William Cook, 200 acres, October 25, 1798, deed executed October 24, 1806; Tract 51, John Williams, 150 acres, June 5, 1798, deed executed December 28, 1807; Tract 83, Robert Brotherton, 100 acres, October 17, 1798; Tract 84, George Cary, 100 acres, August 12, 1799; Tract 85, William McKibben, 150 acres, August 5, 1799; Tract 86, William Culbertson, 150 acres, June 17, 1797, forfeited; Tract 87, Samuel McElvey, 150 acres, August 5, 1799; Tract 88, Hugh Logue purchased, March 28, 1805, 250 acres; Tract 89, Jacob and Adam Brookhouser, 200 acres, new agreement, October 5, 1804; Tract 90, John Nye, 150 acres, May 30, 1798; Tract 91, Jacob Straw, 150 acres, August 24, 1799, deed executed; Tract 92, Thomas Campbell, 150 acres, June 30, 1796, forfeited.

While the Indians were yet hostile, a few of the venturesome pioneers cultivated patches of ground away from the fort at Meadville, but they usually worked in groups of two or more, one standing guard while the others tilled the soil. During the summer of 1795 James Dickson and his son were getting the ground ready for a potato patch on the tract which they settled the year following. Hearing the report of a gun and seeing a flock of turkeys fly to the limbs of a tree near by, the laborers secreted themselves in an adjoining thicket, fearing that Indians were near. Soon the form of Hugh Logue appeared, rifle in hand, and together they went to Meadville, leaving a horse they had been using at the clearing. Several days later when they returned the horse was missing, but beside his disappearing tracks which led toward Conneaut Lake were the prints of moccasins; the savages had doubtless stolen the horse and it was never recovered. It was not unfrequent in those times that thefts of this kind were committed.

Many of the pioneers had come from thickly-settled regions, and were unaccustomed to use the rifle. Many of them, particularly the younger men, became expert hunters. Daniel Kilday and Robert Kilpatrick, two Irish settlers, were unaccustomed to forest life and its wild inhabitants. While in the woods together, Kilday observed an animal run up a sapling. Rushing forward he cried out to his companions, "Robert, Robert, we've threed a fawn." Daniel followed the creature up the tree, and in spite of its furious demonstrations knocked it off, when Kilpatrick below beat the life out of it with a club. It proved to be a large wild cat.

George Mason built a little grist-mill on Foster's Run in 1800, and though its capacity was very small, it was regarded as a great boon in the settlement, for it dispensed with the hominy block in mashing grain for food. On the same little stream Frederick Hickernell, about 1805, built a fulling-mill which in 1810 passed to the possession of David Mason, and was operated by him for some years. James Dickson in 1815 commenced the construction of a flouring-mill at Magoffin's Falls in the southeast part of the township, but it was not until 1819 that it was set in operation. After the death of his father, Joseph Dickson operated it until 1836, when he sold the property to William McGaw, and in a few years the mill ceased grinding. In 1814 James Dickson and William Gill both started distilleries, which had a capacity of about four bushels of rye per day. Roderick Frazier and others also operated stills, for the demand for whisky was great. James Dickson, in 1815, built the first bridge across French Creek in Hayfield. It had stone piers and hewed timbers, and was afterward purchased by the county. Three bridges now connect Hayfield with Woodcock. Abraham Jones built the first saw-mill on Cussewago Creek. It stood on the west side of the creek near Hazen's present mill. The grist-mill at Hayfield was erected by Abraham Lefevre in 1841.

The first school in the township was taught by Miss Martha Ouray, who

was afterward Mrs. Kilday. About 1798 she held a term in a little old cabin which stood on the present James Kilday farm. The Dickson and Gill children attended. Mordecai Thomas taught in the same vicinity from 1804 to 1808, and Owen David for ten or twelve years subsequently. George Andrews, an Irishman of considerable education and talent, held a term at the Dickson cabin about 1804. The early schools were usually kept in abandoned round-log-cabins, wholly unsupplied with apparatus or conveniences. As a rule the pupils were few and the teachers poorly educated.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church, at Black's Corners, was organized, with fourteen members, by Rev. John A. Nuner, at Burns' Schoolhouse, two miles north of the present church, in 1854, and in that year the church edifice was erected at a cost of $400. The membership is quite small, numbering about twenty. Since July, 1880, the congregation has been supplied by Rev. Eli Miller, of Venango. Rev. Nuner, the first pastor, remained several years. His successors have been: Revs. Weixel, Bechtel, I. J. Delo, D. M. Kemerer, I. J. Delo again, and Eli Miller. The earliest members included Adam Brookhouser, Abraham Gehr, Daniel Snyder and Conrad Cole.

Pleasant Hill United Brethren Church, at Black's Corners, was organized with forty members in 1869, by Rev. Silas Casterline. Herman Rice and John Braddish were early leading members. The church edifice was erected in 1870, at a cost of about $1,700. The membership is about thirty, and the class is a part of Cussewago Circuit.

Near Black's Corners, on the farm of Roderick Frazier, stands a Wesleyan Methodist frame church, erected about 1849. Among the early members of the society that worships here were: David Jones, Esack Jones, Samuel Marsh, Andrew Ikler and Appleton Blakeley. The membership is now reduced to six or eight, but the society, with commendable zeal, still maintains services.

A Methodist Episcopal class was organized at the house of Ebenezer Seavy, on French Creek opposite Saegertown, in 1826, by Revs. I. H. Tackett and John W. Hill, then of Meadville Circuit. Samuel Harriman, the first class-leader, Ebenezer Seavy, Jedidiah Freeman and John McGill, were its principal early members. Meetings were held for a short time in Seavy's cabin, then on the second floor of Foster's distillery, on the same farm, for several years, when a rudely furnished frame meeting-house was erected at Frederick Hickernell's, two miles further up the creek, where services were held for many years. Members left to form Saegertown and other classes, and the society was dissolved.

The Methodist Episcopal class at Coon's Corners was organized with twelve members in 1844, by Rev. I. C. T. McClelland, of Saegertown Circuit. The first pastors, Jacob Cease, Francis Seavy and Peter Ridell, were early members. Early meetings were held at Burns' Schoolhouse, and in 1848 a frame meeting-house was erected at a cost of $700. It has since been remodeled, and is still occupied. This appointment is known as Hamlin's, and belongs to Saegertown Circuit. About twenty-five persons claim membership here.

At Coon's Corners stands an old church, wherein a Seventh Day Baptist congregation formerly worshipped. The building was erected by that society about 1842. Among its early members were: Simeon and Gideon Dunn, Maxson Greenlee, Louis Dunham and Morris Cole. Elders Brown and Randolph were early pastors. The congregation was reduced in membership, and at last was dissolved. A society of Adventists organized in 1861, then occupied the building for a few years, but this congregation has also passed away.

The Methodist society at Hayfield or Little's Corners, was organized in 1852, with nine members, by Rev. J. K. Hallock, the first pastor. Among the prom-

inent early members were: Elijah Amidon, Mrs. Margaret Reynolds, John Morehouse, Abraham De Forest and Sylvester Mann. The early meetings were conducted in the schoolhouse, and in 1853 the present frame church edifice was reared at an expense of about $1,700. The membership is about forty. The society was at first attached to Conneautville, and is now a part of Harmonsburg Circuit.

The Norrisville, formerly Summerhill United Brethren Church was organized about 1853, by Rev. Rittenhouse. William Chapin and wife, Hiram Spencer and Edward Vredingburg and wife, were the first five members. Meetings were held in a schoolhouse in Summerhill Township until about 1860, when the church structure was erected in Hayfield, near its western line. The society numbers about forty, and is a part of Cussewago Circuit.

Hayfield or Little's Corners is the largest village in the township. It contains two stores, a water grist-mill, owned by Hazen Brothers, a steam saw-mill, a water saw-mill, a broom handle factory, operated by P. J. Beebe, a tannery, operated by E. Snyder, a wagon shop, a blacksmith shop, a church, a schoolhouse and about thirty families. The village is a growth of nearly forty years. William B. Morris operated a carding-mill here as early as 1845. Sylvester Mann, as early as 1850, opened a store, Charles Adams, of Conneautville, furnishing the stock of goods. The postoffice is named Hayfield. The Postmasters have been: William B. Morris, George Amidon, Sylvester Mann, Eliab Skeel and A. C. Spencer.

Coon's Corners is a hamlet situated a mile east of Hayfield, and near the center of the township. It contains a postoffice, a store, blacksmith shop, wagon shop, church, and a half dozen dwelling-houses.

On the western line of the township is the hamlet of Norrisville. It contains two stores, one of which is in Summerhill Township, a church, and about six dwellings.

James Jones owns a water saw-mill on Cussewago Creek, in the southern part of the township. William V. Morse owns one near Hayfield Postoffice, and close by is a jelly factory.

CHAPTER XII.

MEAD TOWNSHIP.

FORMATION — SIZE — VALUATION — POPULATION — BOUNDARIES — REV. TIMOTHY ALDEN ON MEAD TOWNSHIP — EARLY SETTLERS — TITLES FROM THE HOLLAND LAND COMPANY — OTHER SETTLERS — MILLS — WAYLAND — FRENCHTOWN — BOUSSON — SCHOOLS — CHURCHES.

MEAD is the oldest township of Crawford County. It was formed prior to the organization of this county, while all the territory of northwestern Pennsylvania was embraced in Allegheny County. Mead Township then included all of what is now Crawford and Erie Counties, but at the first session of the courts in Meadville, in July, 1800, the former county was divided into eight townships, and Mead was greatly reduced in area, embracing besides most of its present territory, parts of Vernon, Hayfield, Woodcock, Richmond and most of Randolph; it was still further reduced to about its

present size in 1828 or 1829. It is now the second township in size, and contains 25,683 acres, valued in 1882 at $483,195. Population of its large territory in 1820 was 1,301; in 1850 it contained 1,810 inhabitants; in 1860, 2,309; in 1870, 2,421; in 1880, 2,857.

French Creek forms the western boundary, Woodcock is north, Randolph east, and East Fairfield and the northwest corner of Wayne south. The eastern part is drained by Little Sugar Creek, which rises in the northeast portion and flows south into East Fairfield. The surface is rolling and the soil is of good quality. Dairying and stock-raising are largely engaged in. The New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad and its Franklin Branch pass through the township along the valley of French Creek. The feeder of the old Erie and Beaver Canal also extended from its head, at Bemustown above Meadville through the township along French Creek.

Of Mead Township, Rev. Timothy Alden thus writes in the *Allegheny Magazine*, in 1817: "The Township of Mead, which obtained that appellation in honor of the late Major-General David Mead, the first citizen of the United States who explored and settled in this region, is about eighteen miles in length, from east to west, and eight in width. It is bounded on the west, about two miles and a half from French Creek, on the westerly side, by Sadsbury; from the northwest corner to French Creek by Venango; on the north from French Creek by Rockdale; on the east by Oil Creek; on the south, to French Creek by Wayne; and from French Creek to the southwestern corner by Fairfield. It consists of 89,040 acres of land, of which 52,350 in the eastern part of the township consists of some of the donation lands of the Seventh District. The township is agreeably variegated with hills and dales, but sufficiently level for all the purposes of agriculture. Like most of the county, it is in general better for grass than for grain. For the former, no part of the United States is believed to be better adapted, and of the latter, nothing but the hand of cultivation is wanted to furnish an abundance for a numerous population. From one-seventh to one-fifth may be considered first-rate land. Of the residue a hundred acres in one body can, perhaps, nowhere be found so broken or so ordinary in quality as to come under the denomination of third rate. Springs of the purest water abound in all directions, from which never-failing brooks proceed to irrigate and enhance the value of every plantation in the township.

"Van Horn's Run, Kossewaugo Creek, on the western side of French Creek, Mill Run, rising in Wayne, taking a circuitous northwesterly course and passing through the village of Meadville, some of the branches of Little Sugar Creek, of Big Sugar Creek, of Oil Creek, and of Woodcock Creek on the east side of French Creek, afford many eligible sites for water-works. At present there are four mills for grain, three for sawing logs, and others are begun or contemplated. Two carding-machines and one fulling-mill are also impelled by water.

"Of forest trees the following list, though imperfect, shows something of the variety: white oak, red oak, black oak, chestnut, hickory in all its species, beech, cherry, sycamore or buttonwood, white ash, black ash, sugar tree, dark and light, soft maple, black birch, white pine, hemlock, white elm, red elm, slippery elm, sassafras, poplar or white wood, quaking asp, cucumber, ironwood, dogwood, not the poisonous kind, called boxwood in some parts, bass or linden, sumach, konnekonik, etc. Of wild fruit there are: crab-apple, plums of several kinds, and of a delicious flavor, haws, white, red and black, whortleberries, blue and black in a few places, strawberries, very fine and abundant, blackberries, high and low in great plenty, raspberries, white, red and purple.

which are excellent, wild currants, gooseberries, cranberries and nuts of different sorts in vast quantities. Hops, high balm, ginseng, bloodroot, evin root or chocolate root, and many other kinds of roots and herbage, of valuable properties, are the spontaneous growth of Mead as well as of other townships in the county of Crawford.

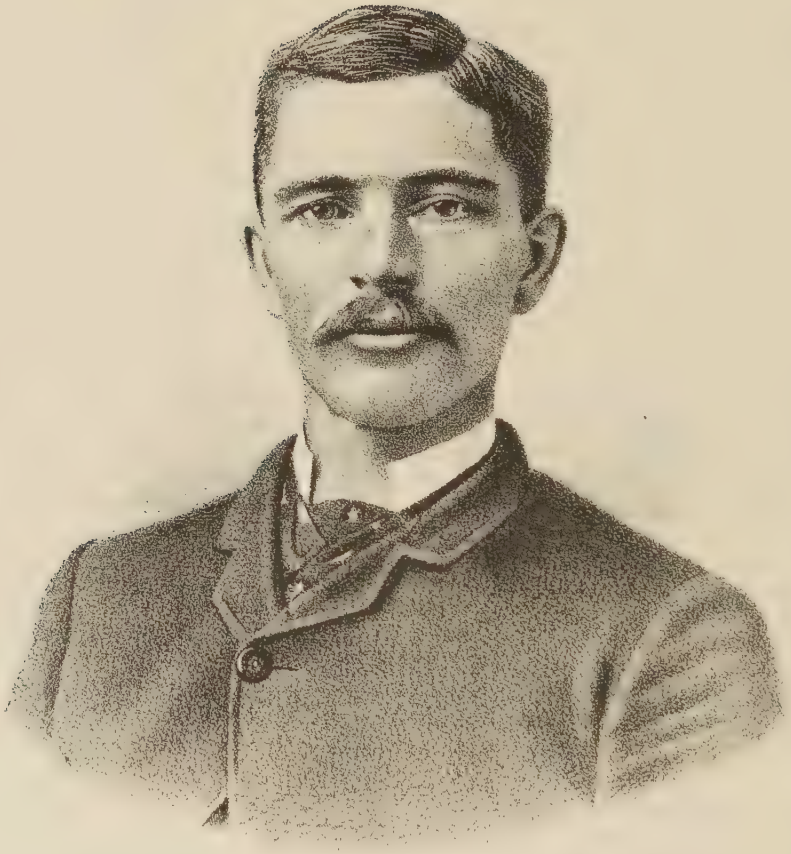
"Health, the greatest of all merely temporal blessings, is nowhere more prevalent than in this part of the country. Instances of the goitres are occasionally found, which are probably caused by the common family use of pure, cold spring water, but are seldom accompanied with much inconvenience."

Mead Township was the place of the first settlement in Crawford County. As stated in a previous chapter of this volume, a company of nine men on the 12th day of May, 1788, landed at the site of Meadville, having journeyed into the midst of the vast wilderness from Northumberland County. The outlook was a gloomy one. They were far from any white settlements and poorly supplied with the means of making a livelihood. Most of the men returned to the East, where if they must live with less independence they could at least enjoy more of the comforts of life. When Indian hostilities began all were obliged to forsake their homes till the storm blew over. For several years prior to 1795 there was doubtless little if any permanent settlement in the township or county beyond the fort at Meadville, though for a few years previous clearings were made and crops raised by the venturesome pioneers, working in bands for mutual protection. David Mead patented a tract on the west bank of French Creek about one mile above Meadville, but in the fall of 1788 removed to the site of Meadville, abandoned by Thomas Grant. John Mead and Cornelius Van Horn, two early pioneers, became life-long settlers in what is now Vernon Township. James Fitz Randolph, another of the original settlers of 1788, located a tract about two miles south of Meadville in this township. Samuel Lord, John Wentworth and Frederick Haymaker, among others, followed the Mead company to French Creek. Samuel Lord settled on the tract "Mount Hope," the site of North Meadville. He had been a Revolutionary soldier and a noted Indian fighter. He kept a store in Meadville and had a large trade with the Indians, whose good-will he possessed and whose speech he had acquired. He was a Federalist in politics and took a leading interest in public affairs.

The settlement was increased in 1789 by Darius Mead, Frederick Baum and Robert Fitz Randolph. Mr. Fitz Randolph was born in Essex County, N. J.; he married when young and removed to Pennsylvania. He served during the Revolution, and at its close took up his residence in Northumberland County. In 1789 he with his family immigrated to French Creek, arriving at Meadville, July 6. He settled at once on a farm two miles below, where he remained until his death, July 16, 1830, in his eighty-ninth year. During the war of 1812, in one of the alarms occasioned by the approach of the enemy at Erie, he mustered his household, consisting of four sons and two or three grandsons, and placing himself at their head marched to meet the expected foe. He was then in his seventy-second year and before reaching Erie was induced to return. His sons James, Edward, Robert, Taylor and Esaac were also pioneers.

Frederick Baum settled on a tract which he patented, situated about a mile farther down French Creek, in the southwest part of Mead Township. He was a German. John Baum, who was one of the earliest settlers in the same vicinity, was reputed the strongest man in the settlements.

The northwest corner of Mead Township consists of a tract patented by Thomas Ray. He was one of the earliest to migrate to the western wilderness, and in the spring of 1791, on the day Cornelius Van Horn was taken prisoner,



Franklin J. Ward.

Maggie E. Waird

he also was captured by Indians near Meadville, where his companion, William Gregg, was killed. Ray was taken to Detroit, and after his release returned to Mead Township and completed his settlement on French Creek, where he remained through life. He was a native Scotchman, and like many of his countrymen indulged freely in the potent cup. His family is scattered, and one of his sons, Thomas, became a noted Methodist minister.

Martin Kycenceder was one of the earliest settlers about two miles southeast of Meadville. He had been a Hessian soldier in the Revolution, was captured by the Americans and at the close of the struggle remained in this country. He owned no real estate in this township but remained its citizen till death. Descendants still live in the county.

William Clark settled on the tract immediately south of David Mead's, much of it now being within the city limits. Judge Clark, as he was known, was one of the earliest Associate Judges. He was a Democrat and a politician of considerable note. In old age he removed to a farm on the Susquehanna, near Harrisburg, where he died.

Nicholas Lord, brother of Samuel Lord, patented a tract about one and a half miles east of Meadville on Mill Run, where he settled in 1795. Thomas Frew was an early settler on the John Frew tract and William Eaches on the tract patented by himself, both northeast of Meadville. John Wilkins patented and settled the tract immediately east of Meadville, but he did not remain long. David Compton, one of the foremost pioneers of Vernon Township near Vallonia, lost two children by the burning of his cabin in March, 1812, and soon after moved about two miles below Meadville in Mead Township and continued farming there through life.

The central and eastern parts of the township belonged almost entirely to the domain of the Holland Land Company. Its earliest settlements are thus recorded in the books of that company, the dates being those of contracts, which preceded actual settlement only a few days. In all but very few instances the persons below named settled on the tracts, but a number did not remain long: Tracts 178 and 182, David Compton, 150 acres each, November 24, 1797, deed executed for 50 acres to Peter and George Brendle, assignees; James Smith purchased 150 acres same tract November 30, 1807; Tract 179, David Compton, 200 acres, November 24, 1797, deed executed to George and Peter Brendle, assignees; Tract 180, William Hope, 200 acres, November 10, 1800; same tract, Jacob Beetom purchased 100 acres, April 22, 1805; Tract 181, Hugh Allen and Samuel Hobbs, 200 acres, March 18, 1802, deed executed to Samuel Torbett and the heirs of Allen; Tract 183, Edward Douglas, 136 acres, February 17, 1802, re-purchased; Tract 184, William Glenn, 150 acres, August 1, 1798; Tract 185, Edward Dunfield, 150 acres, October 10, 1798, contract not executed; same tract, Oliver Chase, 150 acres, March 15, 1803; Tract 186, Joseph Andrews, 150 acres, November 10, 1800, deed executed 1802; Tract 187, Joseph Parr, 150 acres, October 10, 1798; Tracts 188 and 189, Samuel Torbett, 200 acres each, November 1, 1796, recovered by ejectment; Tract 188, David Torbett, 100 acres, June 1, 1805, deed delivered; Tract 190, James Hunter, 200 acres, October 22, 1800, deed executed 1801; Tract 191, Roger Allen purchased 330 acres in 1803; Tract 192, James Masters, 100 acres, February 27, 1810; same tract, Jacob and Daniel Sitler, 164 acres, March 19, 1810; Tract 193, John Hunter and John Hunter, Jr., 200 acres, October 22, 1800, deed executed 1801; same tract, James Hamilton purchased 100 acres, March 7, 1805; Tract 194, James Hamilton, 200 acres, December 4, 1797; Tract 195, Peter Kimmey, 150 acres, August 14, 1801; Tract 196, Beriah Battles, 150 acres, August 21, 1799, deed executed; Tract

201, Alexander and Joseph Johnson, 150 acres, July 22, 1797, deed executed to Joseph Johnson; Tract 202, James De France, 50 acres, May 17, 1798; Tract 203, Job Calvert, 100 acres, September 13, 1799, assigned to Jacob Stanbrook; Tract 204, Robert Little, 200 acres, July 18, 1801; Tract 205, James Anderson and James Anderson, Jr., 200 acres, October 13, 1796, deed executed; Tract 206, same parties and date, 152 acres, assigned to Martin Whalen, 1805; Tract 207, George Lowry, 200 acres, December 6, 1797, assigned to Henry Hurst; Tract 208, William Milligan, 100 acres, September 22, 1798, contract forfeited, new contract with Job Calvert, January 23, 1804; Tract 209, Andrew McFadden, 150 acres, December 22, 1801; Tract 210, James De France, 100 acres, May 17, 1798; Tract 211, James McDill, 150 acres, November 18, 1796; Tract 218, John McFadden, Jr., 100 acres, July 30, 1799, deed executed to Frederick Stainbrook, assignee; Tracts 218 and 219, William Milligan, 100 acres each, September 22, 1797, assigned to James McKnight and James Sterrett; Tract 220, Severin Bolt, 150 acres, July 30, 1799; Tract 232, John McClelland, 150 acres, August 13, 1799, deed executed to heirs of McClelland in 1808.

David Compton, as stated above, settled on French Creek below Meadville, and must have performed the conditions of settlement in Tracts 178 and 182 by means of a tenant until he disposed of his claims to the Brendles, who became actual settlers thereon. William Hope was a wagon-maker of Meadville. Jacob Beetum is not remembered, and probably removed from this vicinity early. Hugh Allen and Samuel Hobbs the latter from Vermont, were both residents of Tract 181; Samuel Torbett, the assignee of Hobbs, was an inn-keeper at Meadville. Edward Douglas cleared the first land on Tract 183. William Glenn came from Lycoming County, and settled in the southwest part of Tract 184, where he died, leaving a large family. Edward Dunfield was not known to the oldest inhabitant, and could not have remained long. Oliver Chase died on his farm in Tract 185. He was a Methodist, and his grandson now occupies the old homestead. Joseph Andrews is remembered as the pioneer of Tract 186. Joseph Parr is forgotten. James Hunter, from Allegheny County, resided till death on Tract 190, and his son is still there. Roger Allen and James Masters are both remembered as pioneers on their respective tracts; the latter remained till death, and his sons removed from the township. Jacob and Daniel Sitler, Germans and Lutherans, were life-long settlers on Tract 192. James Hamilton was a prominent pioneer, and has left a numerous posterity. Peter Kimmey was here till death, and his grandchildren yet remain. Beriah Battles was the pioneer of Frenchtown, but moved away a few years later. Alexander and Joseph Johnson were the pioneers of adjacent farms in Randolph Township. James De France, from Lycoming County, remained on Tract 210 until some time between 1815 and 1820, when he removed to Mercer County. He was a fuller by trade. As indicated by the records William Milligan abandoned his settlement on Tract 208. His successor, Job Calvert, remained many years. Jacob Stainbrook was a German, and remained in the southwest part of Tract 203 until death. Robert Little, a farmer and a weaver, moved away in early times from his settlement in the northeast corner of Tract 204. Both James Anderson and Martin Whalen were pioneers. The McFaddens were among the earliest settlers. James McDill was one of the foremost pioneers of the eastern part of the township. He hailed from Lycoming County, came out an unmarried man, and later in life removed to Wayne Township, where he died. He was by religious faith a Covenanter. James McKnight moved West from his farm in Tract 218. James Sterrett was a resident of Erie County. Severin Bolt is not remembered, but John McClelland was an early settler.

As the Holland records show, the land which now comprises Mead Township was settled in every part between 1796 and 1800. The settlements though were few, not more than one to a tract of 400 acres. A few pioneers effected settlements on two tracts by erecting their cabins on the dividing line. Many of the foremost moved away, while others remained life-long residents, and are yet represented in the township by children of the third and fourth generations. The following additional settlers were tax-paying residents of Mead Township in 1810, many of them having located here years before that date: Simeon Brown, Elizabeth Buchanan, Daniel Custard, Joseph Davis, Joseph Deemer, John Douglas, Alexander and William Ewing, Joseph Finney, Thomas Frew, George Fleek, John Grimes, David Hunter, George Kightlinger, Alexander Lindsey, Samuel McIlroy, Daniel Maloney, John Patterson, Henry Patterson, James Quigley, Hugh Williamson, Nathan and William Williams, Robert De France, John McCleary, the Stainbrooks, David Thurston, and Joseph Wright.

Simeon Brown settled in the northeast part. Elizabeth Buchanan was in 1810 the widow of Alexander Buchanan, a pioneer; she settled with her family two miles south of Meadville. Daniel Custard was an Englishman, and owned a little place about a half mile southeast from the city. Joseph Davis was a Presbyterian, and remained till his death in the southeast part of the township. Alexander and William Ewing were brothers, and settled four miles east of Meadville, where they farmed and followed the cooper's trade. William died on the farm, and Alexander removed to Ohio. Joseph Finney settled north of Meadville. On his farm was an extensive stone quarry, and the place was widely known as "Finney's rocks." Thomas Frew resided on the turnpike, two miles north from the city. George Fleek was a resident until death on Tract 178, in the northeast part of the township. John Grimes was a life-long settler in the same vicinity. George Kightlinger settled in the southeast part. His brothers Michael and Abraham were also pioneers, the former of Wayne, the latter of East Fairfield Townships. Alexander Lindsey erected his cabin two miles southeast from Meadville, near the head of Mill Run. Samuel McIlroy was a weaver near Meadville. Daniel Maloney, an Irishman, settled in the eastern part. John Patterson settled south of the city. Henry Patterson was a weaver. James Quigley resided near Meadville. Hugh Williamson was a carpenter, and one of the earliest settlers. He resided until death a mile east of the county seat. Nathan and William Williams were pioneers in the northern part. John McCleary was a Presbyterian, and settled in the southeast part, remaining there through life. Peter, John, Jacob, Christian and Adam Stainbrook were brothers. John settled in East Fairfield, the others in Mead Township. Henry, the son of Jacob, and Frederick, the son of John Stainbrook, were also tax-paying settlers in 1810. The family was of German extraction, and now has representatives in the township. David Thurston, who settled for life in the southeast part, hailed from New Jersey. He was a weaver, and plied his trade in connection with farming. Joseph Wright was here early, but not many years later took his permanent departure.

In the southeast part, on Tract 202, Jacob Stainbrook about 1816 built a water grist-mill on a little brook that coursed through his farm. It was a small, crude affair, with one run of stone, and could not be operated in dry weather. It ground a little wheat and more corn. As the only mill in this locality it was extensively patronized. George Kightlinger, the son-in law of the builder, became proprietor, and managed the mill for many years. William Moultrip about 1830 built a water-mill on a branch of Sugar Creek, on Tract 210, and ran it a number of years.

Two miles above Meadville Dr. Daniel Bemus, about 1830, erected an extensive saw and grist-mill, the water-power for which was obtained from a dam, which he built across French Creek. Large quantities of lumber, mostly pine, were sawed and dried, then floated down to Pittsburgh in boats constructed here. Dr. Bemus also built an oil-mill, and operated it for some years, then in 1834–35 he rebuilt the structure, making it a three-story building, about 60x80 feet in size, costing nearly $10,000. Before it was occupied the building was burned, June 13, 1835. The grist and saw-mill remained under the management of Dr. Bemus, except for a few years, when it was leased by Collum & Lockart, until it too was destroyed by fire about 1856. When the feeder to the Beaver & Erie Canal was constructed it was fed from French Creek through the Bemus dam, which thus became public property. Bemustown, as the place was known, was at one time quite a little settlement, containing besides the mills a store and six or eight dwellings.

Within the township the following mills are in operation: Clemons' steam saw-mill in the eastern part; Bousson's steam saw, planing and shingle-mill, started in 1883, on Tract 202; Doane's old water saw-mill in the eastern part; Charles Stitzer's steam saw-mill, two miles southeast from Meadville; Daniel Richmond's steam saw-mill, near the last named, and probably others. In the eastern part are two cheese factories, one owned by Marvin Lewis, the other by Polly & Jennet.

Wayland, formerly Mead Corners, Postoffice, is located on Tract 189, in the eastern part.

Frenchtown Postoffice, in the southeast part, is a hamlet containing a Catholic Church, a school, a store, a blacksmith shop, and five or six houses.

Bousson Postoffice was established in 1883, in the southeast corner of Tract 203.

Occasional schools were held in various parts of the township within a few years after the settlements were made, but it was a long time before regular schools were formed. Mordecai Thomas taught one of the earliest about 1805 on the Ray farm, in the extreme northwest corner of the township. In accordance with a custom which was prevalent for a long time thereafter, he was barred out one morning by his pupils. He refused to submit to the conditions of a general "treat," demanded by the scholars in possession, and made several ineffectual attempts to regain the building before his sallies were met with success. As is usual in such cases trouble arose between master and pupils in consequence of the protracted siege, and the school soon after was discontinued. In the southeast part James Hamilton taught an early school about 1818. At the same time he had undertaken to flail wheat for James Brawley in Randolph Township, and every night after dismissing school he trudged with pioneer fortitude three miles through the wilderness and flailed industriously until 12 or 1 o'clock. William Wright was also an early pedagogue in that vicinity.

Wayland Baptist Church, situated in the eastern part, is the home of a congregation organized January 27, 1838, at the schoolhouse near Ira Hatch's residence and about two miles northeast of the present church. The constituent members were: Philip Hatch, Andrew Braymer, Ira Hatch, Horatio Hatch, John Braymer, Rhoda Chase, Hannah Dewey, Abigail Braymer, Electa Hatch, Fanny Hatch, Sarah Ellis, Mary Hatch and Amanda Sizer, all of whom had received letters from Randolph Church. The membership was soon after largely increased. The first pastor was Elder Enos Stewart. His successors, with terms of service, have been: Elder William Look, 1840–43; Elder Colby, 1844; Dr. George Spratt, 1845–48; Dr. G. L. Stephens, supply, 1848; Nor-

man Thomas, 1848–50; E. M. Alden, 1851–53; Elder Henry B. Johnson, a Baptist student at Meadville, 1854–56; David Phillips, 1856–57; John Hicks, 1858–71; W. B. Grow, supply, 1872; David J. Williams, 1872–76; Dr. G. L. Stephens, supply, 1876–77; W. H. Ellis, 1878–80; George Whitman, supply, 1881; A. J. Adams, 1881–82. Rev. James T. Bradford, present pastor since September 14, 1883. Meetings were held at the Dewey Schoolhouse until the present frame church was erected in 1840, at a cost of about $1,500. The membership is 103.

Brown's Chapel is the name of a Methodist Episcopal Church located in Tract 179, in the northern part of the township. The class which worships here was organized with nine members in 1812, by Rev. J. Graham, of Erie Circuit. Among the earliest members were: Oliver Chase and wife, Edward Douglas, John McFadden, Ruth Kimmey, Mr. Little and Mrs. Phœbe Brown, who is the only survivor of the original class. The earliest ministers received a salary of from $50 to $100 per year. The circuit was large, and the ministers must ride all day and fare at the backwoods cabin on bear meat or venison and corn cakes. The first meetings were held at the cabin of John Grimes, about three-fourths of a mile south of the present church edifice, then in a schoolhouse, where the church stands, until about 1830, when a frame church was built. It was never completely finished. For the purpose of accommodating the room to the size of the audience, the church was divided into two apartments by a swing partition; a solid partition extended from the floor upwards for several feet, and above it were two huge swinging doors, which could be opened or shut at pleasure. This building was occupied until 1848, when the present frame church was erected on the same site. The membership of the society is sixty. It is attached to Meadville Circuit, recently formed. For many years previously it was a part of Saegertown Circuit.

Pine Grove Methodist Episcopal Church is located in the south part of Tract 202 in the southeast part of the township. It is a frame building, 32x40, and was erected in 1858 at a cost of $900. A class was organized in this locality as early as 1825. Among its foremost members were: Joseph Baird, John Daniels, David Thurston, John McFadden and Job Calvert. Meetings were held for a while at the cabins of its members, then in the schoolhouse until the present church was built. The class has been a part of many circuits. It has successively been attached to Saegertown, Cochranton, Townville and other circuits, and now belongs to the recently formed Meadville Circuit. The present membership of the class is about thirty.

St. Hippolytus Catholic Church was erected at Frenchtown in the southeast part of the township in October, 1837. It was enlarged and remodeled in 1866 at a cost of $2,500. The membership of the congregation includes about 150 families and is composed of a large colony of French people, who commenced immigrating to this vicinity as early as 1827. At first only several families arrived, but their friends and acquaintances gradually left the native land and followed, until the settlement has become quite strong, extending into East Fairfield and other adjacent townships. Among the earliest and most prominent members were: Paul Gerard, who donated the lot for the church edifice, John C. Dubet, John G. Demaison, Nicholas Monnin, Francis Jaquart, John B. Brown, John Galmish and Germain Devoge. The congregation was formed about 1834, and was attended by non-resident priests until 1845, when Father Mark A. De LaRoque became the settled priest and remained more than twenty years. He was succeeded by Father Eugene Cogneville, the present incumbent, who has served the congregation up to the present.

CHAPTER XIII.

NORTH SHENANGO TOWNSHIP.

ORIGINAL TOWNSHIP — SUBDIVISION — POPULATION — PHYSICAL FEATURES— MOUNDS—ESPYVILLE STATION—ESPYVILLE POSTOFFICE—CHURCHES—LAND TITLES—EARLY SETTLERS—MILLS—DISTILLERIES—EARLY TEACHERS.

SHENANGO TOWNSHIP, one of the original subdivisions of the county, was created July 9, 1800, with the following boundaries: Beginning at the southwest corner of Crawford County; thence northwardly the breadth of a certain fraction of a tract, distance unknown, together with the breadth of eleven full tracts; thence eastwardly the breadth of one tract adjoining the State line together with the length of eight tracts; thence southwardly to the southern boundary of Crawford County; thence by the same to the place of beginning. As thus constituted Shenango was about eight by nine miles in size and included beside what is now West Shenango, South Shenango and West Fallowfield, a portion of North Shenango, and fractions of Sadsbury and East Fallowfield. In 1830 the boundaries were changed and North and South Shenango formed, the former including what are now North Shenango and Pine. The organization of Pine in 1845 reduced North Shenango to its present limits. It includes 15,554 acres and had in 1850 a population of 825; in 1860, of 861; in 1870, 901, and in 1880, 942.

The surface is nearly level and the soil is of excellent quality, a clay on the higher lands and a black loam in the low lands. Beech and maple are the principal timber. Shenango Creek is the chief stream. Flowing northwesterly it enters from Sadsbury and forms the division line between Pine and North Shenango. When near the western end of Pine, it bends to the south and flows through the western part of North Shenango. Along the boundary between Pine and this township is Pymatuning Swamp, which lies, however, mostly in Pine. It has an average width of a mile, is partially covered with tamarack or larch, and is skirted by a growth of hemlock. Efforts are now being made to reclaim the swamp lands by dredging the creek, and from the success attending similar attempts elsewhere it is probable that the agricultural resources of Pine and North Shenango will soon be considerably increased.

Along the low lands of Shenango Creek numerous remains of the Mound Builders have been observed. Besides a number of mounds from thirty to fifty feet in circumference but of slight elevation, two circular forts have been found each enclosing about a half acre of ground. One is located close to the bank of the creek on Tract 31, and another on Tract 34. The embankment is now not high, but each is surrounded by a moat, which indicates their construction for purposes of defense. Heaps of stones, piled up in square form like rude altars, have also been discovered along Shenango Creek.

The Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad crosses northeast and southwest. Espyville Station, located near the center of the township, has a store, hotel, blacksmith shop and about twelve dwelling-houses.

Espyville, in the western part, was laid out about 1833 by John Espy.

Jeremy Allen, the first merchant, Hugh Wilson, a blacksmith, and Isaac Marshall, a carpenter and teacher, were the only residents for years. Isaac Marshall was the first Postmaster and Mrs. Isabella Marshall was the first tavern hostess. The village has not attained any great size and now contains a store, two blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, one paint shop, a jelly factory and cider mill, Collins Bros.' saw and planing-mill, a school, church, about twenty families, and the only postoffice in the township.

A postoffice called Stewartville formerly existed in the eastern part of the township, but was abolished a few years ago. A cheese factory and several dwelling-houses yet remain. A short distance west of Espyville is Crater's grist-mill, the only one in the township.

There are three churches within the limits of North Shenango. The Methodist Episcopal at Espyville was organized with seven members at the house of Aaron Herriott in 1831. Early services were held in the schoolhouse, and in the autumn of 1833 a house of worship was erected, which was superseded in 1870 by the present commodious two-story, frame structure, 38x68 feet, erected at a cost of $6,000. A revival in the autumn of 1883 added more than 100 to the membership, which is now about 200. Espyville Circuit, formed in 1851, includes four charges, Espyville, Center Chapel, North Bank, in South Shenango, and Hartstown. Its pastors have been: D. H. Jack and H. M. Chamberlain, 1851; D. H. Jack and H. Luce, 1852; W. French and H. Luce, 1853; W. French and J. B. Orwig, 1854; S. L. Wilkinson and J. B. Orwig, 1855; R. Gray, 1856; I. Scofield and J. C. Sullivan, 1857; A. H. Bowers, 1858; A. L. Miller and G. M. Eberman, 1859; John Abbott, 1860; A. J. Merchant, 1861; J. Flower, 1862–63; S. S. Stuntz, 1864; J. W. Hill, 1865; R. Gray, 1866–67; G. H. Brown, 1868–69–70; I. D. Darling, 1871–72; A. R. Rich, 1873–74–75; J. Eckels, 1876–77; L. Wick, 1878–79; T. P. Warner, 1880–81–82; A. W. Decker, 1883.

Center Chapel, a Methodist Episcopal edifice, is located about a half mile east of Espyville Station. The class was formed in 1825 by Rev. Thomas Carr, the first pastor, and among its earliest members were John Thayer and wife, Abraham Wiser, Rachel Burwell, Mrs. Hannah Burwell, Miss Hannah Burwell and Horace Taylor and wife. Meetings were held at private houses and in the schoolhouse until about 1846, when the present church was erected. The society now numbers about fifty members.

North Shenango United Presbyterian Church was organized by Rev. H. H. Thompson, February 19, 1849, with thirty members, who were formerly connected with the Hartstown Church, and withdrew to form a separate organization for their greater convenience in attending worship. A church had been erected in 1846, and a second commodious building was recently erected to take its place. It is situated near Center Chapel about a half mile east of Espyville Station. Jacob Martin, John S. Porter and William Wilson were the first Elders elected. The present Board consists of Jacob Martin, John Hayes, R. S. McKay and Joseph McNutt. The membership is now 120. Rev. William Dalzell, the first pastor, served from January 29, 1850, to October 9 of the same year. The second and present one is Rev. H. H. Hervey, who has been serving the congregation since December, 1852. He is also pastor of Hartstown congregation.

Rev. Abel Jackson was one of the earliest ministers. Came from New Jersey and about 1820 organized a Congregational Society, which was disbanded several years later. Moses Allen, John Linn and Sidney Herriott were among the members.

The township consists of tracts which belonged to the North American and

the Pennsylvania Population Land Companies. For the settlement of those of the latter company, the record, which closes in 1812, shows that contracts were made with the following named persons, many of whom did not become permanent settlers in this township: Tract 733, swamp; 758 (mostly in Pine), 64 acres contracted for June 26, 1807, by James Robinson, who settled there; 759, wholly unsold, part swamp; 760 (mostly in pine), 100 acres purchased by Jacob Barrackman, who settled under contract; 763 (partly in Pine), 100 acres, William Davis, June 14, 1808, settled under contract; 100 acres, same tract, Hugh Blair, July 6, 1811; 764, 200 acres, Patrick Davis, June 14, 1798, deed delivered; 765, 200 acres, John Graham, June 1, 1798, deed granted February 17, 1804; same tract, 100 acres, James Roe, May 29, 1807; 766 (a fraction in Pine), 200 acres, Mathias Colcher, June 1, 1798, settled under contract; 768, 200 acres, John McDowell, April 29, 1805, settled under contract; 769, 200 acres, Andrew Shearer, June 1, 1798, deed granted William Shellito, assignee of Shearer; same tract, 100 acres, William Shellito, January 15, 1802; 770, 100 acres, James Dickey, April 29, 1799, deed delivered.

Anthony and Henry Bennett, came from the Susquehanna about 1798. The former settled on Tract 42, the latter on Tract 46. They were Seceders and life-long residents of the township. Their aged father, William Bennett, said to have built the first keel boat on the Susquehanna, also immigrated to the township and died in 1812, aged one hundred and one years. Anthony Bennett erected the first grist and saw-mills in the township in 1800 or 1801, on Bennett's Run, and both were operated for many years. Samuel Barrackman settled on Tract 38 in April, 1800. He came from the Susquehanna the year previous, but remained during the winter in Greenwood. He cut a road through the wilderness from Hartstown in order to reach his destination with his ox team. He built a log-house on the farm he settled, and on which he lived till his death, a prominent citizen and farmer. His brother Jacob, a cripple, was also an early settler. Sidney Herriott, originally from New Jersey, came from Williamsport in 1799, and settled on Tract 31, where he remained til death. Mrs. Hannah Linn, a widow, came with her sons, John, Andrew, George and Joseph, from Essex County, N. J., and settled on Tracts 32 and 36. They came *via* Pittsburgh with a four-horse team. During the first winter of their residence here, blankets were used as a substitute for doors. Mrs. Linn died a few years later, and her children remained permanent and well-known pioneers. Isaac W., Henry and Elijah Collins, brothers, came from Mifflin County in 1801, and settled in the central part of the township. David Collins, a cousin, settled in the same vicinity. George Espy came about 1802, and settled on the site of Espyville. He had a family of eleven children: Josiah, Patterson, Thomas, Richard, James, John, Stephenson, McCormick, David, Nancy and Anna. John Gaugh came from Redstone, about 1805, and settled on Tract 47. He soon after returned to Redstone, but late in life again came to North Shenango. James Pollock, an Irishman, came from Westmoreland County, and settled on Tract 28, about 1802. He died there in 1815, and was buried on his farm. James and William Reed, brothers, came from the Susquehanna about 1800. William proceeded as far as Franklin in a canoe, his wife following along the river upon horse-back, and driving two cows. They stopped at first in the eastern part of the township, but subsequently removed to the southwest part, in the vicinity of a spring discovered by Mrs. Reed while lost in the woods. She and Mrs. Bennett, the latter with a babe in her arms, started through the forest to carry the mid-day meal to their husbands, but lost their way and rambled through the woods till evening, then took refuge in a small tree. They passed the night in terror, beholding

a panther for a long time crouched beneath them. Descending in the morning they were attracted by the sound of chopping and soon found two men by whom they were guided homeward, where they learned that the neighborhood was aroused and searching for them.

Other pioneers were William Shellito, a native of Ireland, who became a settler for life on Tract 765; Hugh Wilson from Redstone, who came about 1800, and with his sons Hugh and Andrew settled on Tract 48; James Robinson, who died unmarried about 1812 while in service at Erie; Patrick Davis, who emigrated from Ireland; Henry Blair, son of Hugh Blair of West Fallowfield, on Tract 759; John Alexander, who settled in the southwest part; Samuel Glenn and Mr. Patterson.

George Espy built a saw and grist-mill about one-fourth mile west of what is now Espyville about 1808. He also operated a distillery. Anthony Bennett and, a little later, many others also owned stills. Stephen Allen about 1832 started a carding-mill, which was operated for many years by members of his family.

Joseph Wright taught the first school about 1804, in a deserted cabin which stood at Elliott's Corners in the central part of the township. He was an old settler dwelling on Tract 43, and taught a large number of schools. Drusilla Jakeway, of Johnson, Ohio, David McConehey, Patterson Espy and Col. Linas Jones were also early teachers. The last named was a colonel of militia, taught during the war of 1812, and afterward settled in Ashtabula County, Ohio. He is remembered as an excellent teacher.

CHAPTER XIV.

OIL CREEK TOWNSHIP

Oil Creek Township—Erection—Boundaries—Physical Features—Land Titles—Early Settlers—Early Merchants—Postoffice—Mills—Distilleries—Oil Wells—Early Teachers—Religion—Churches—Kerr's Hill.

Borough of Hydetown—First Settlers—Early Business Interests—School—Present Business—Incorporation—Officers—Churches—The Equitable Aid Union—Literary Society.

OIL CREEK TOWNSHIP was erected by the Court of Quarter Sessions October 8, 1800, with these boundaries: Beginning at a cornered hickory, being the southeast corner of the county of Crawford; thence west along the line dividing the counties of Venango and Crawford the distance of ten miles to a cornered chestnut; thence north to the northern boundary of Crawford County; thence east along the line dividing the counties of Erie and Crawford the distance of ten miles to a post, being the northeast corner of the county of Crawford; thence south along the line dividing Crawford and Warren to the place of beginning. It thus included all of present Oil Creek, Rome and Sparta and parts of Bloomfield, Athens, Troy and Steuben. By the successive erection of these other townships Oil Creek was reduced to its present limits. It occupies the southeast corner of Crawford County, is regularly rectangular in shape and has an area of 18,431 acres.

Oil Creek, the principal stream, named from its oily surface and in turn

bestowing its name upon the township, passes diagonally through the southwest part. Its principal tributaries here are Little Oil Creek, which flows southward through the western part, and Pine Creek which winds westwardly in the southeast portion. The surface is broken by the deep valley of Oil Creek and the valleys of the other streams, but above these the ridges are rolling. Immediately west of Titusville was in early time a pine swamp. Pine and hemlock are found generally along the streams with clusters of oak. Beech, maple and chestnut grow in the northern part, and on the higher lands generally oak and chestnut prevail. Springs are abundant and are found on almost every farm. The population of the township in 1850 was 811; in 1860 1,593; in 1870, 2,041; in 1880, 1,578. The township is composed wholly of 400 acre tracts. Those in the western, northern and eastern parts were taken up by the Holland Land Company. Maj. Roger Alden was the agent and it is said that in having the tracts surveyed he reserved sixty-six tracts for himself, including those in the central and southern portions of Oil Creek Township. Settlers, however, arrived and took possession of the tracts, regardless of his claims. Compromises were often effected between Alden and the occupant, but the latter not uncommonly retained the land by virtue of his settlement. The Holland Company effected the settlement of its tracts by means of the following contracts: Tract 20, John Strawbridge, September 25, 1798, 100 acres gratuity for five years' residence and improvements and fifty acres sold for $75; Tract 21, not sold till 1815; Tracts 22 and 23, contract with Daniel Titus for 100 acres each, July 12, 1805; Tract 24, Charles Ridgway, July 12, 1803, 100 acres gratuity, 100 acres sold at $2 per acre, deed executed to R. Alden, assignee; Tracts 25 and 26, unsold till 1815; Tract 37, Thomas Gilson, June 2, 1802, 100 acres gratuity, deed executed; Tract 38, Richard Gilson, June 2, 1802, 100 acres gratuity, deed executed; Tract 39, John Gilson, October 21, 1799, 100 acres gratuity, assigned to John Hagan; Tract 52, Robert Hare, Jr., July 10, 1805. 100 acres sold for $175; Tract 53, John McIntire, July 10, 1805, 100 acres sold; Tract 54, Patrick Sloan, 100 acres sold October 10, 1806, for $250; Tract 55, Mary Mitchell, 434 acres sold July 12, 1805; Tract 56, John Lewis, 434 acres sold July 8, 1805 for $200; Tract 57, R. Alden, October 28, 1803; Tract 84, Joel Green, July 12, 1803, 100 acres gratuity; Tracts 85 and 86, John Markley, October 20, 1797, 100 acres gratuity, fifty acres sold in each, assigned James Caldwell and Evan Davis; Tract 87, unsold; Tract 88, Samuel Kerr, Jr., April 13, 1808, 100 acres gratuity, repurchased; Tract 89, Robert Kerr, Sr., and William Kerr, July 10, 1805, 200 acres sold; Tract 90, Samuel Kerr, Jr., July 10, 1805, 100 acres sold.

As the above records indicate most of the land was unsold and unsettled until many years after the first pioneers arrived, and of those who did settle on these lands a number moved away in a few years. The following, with perhaps others of the above, were here in 1810: Richard Thomas and John Gilson, John McIntire, Patrick Sloan, John Lewis, James Caldwell, Samuel and Robert Kerr.

John Gilson emigrated with his father, William Gilson, from England to Maryland, and thence to Bedford County, this State. In 1799 he set out for French Creek with the intention of settling there, but while on his way, in chopping a tree, on which to cross Oil Creek, he accidentally cut his knee, and was compelled to abandon his further journey. He stopped with Daniel Titus, afterward returned to Bedford County, and in 1801 or 1802 his father and family, consisting of wife and nine children, John, William, Thomas, Richard, Peter, Benjamin, Sarah, Charity and Martha, removed to this township. John McIntire emigrated from Ireland to the Juniata, and came to this

township about 1805, remaining until his death in 1813, at the age of forty-five years. He was a member of the Catholic Church. Patrick Sloan, as the records show, purchased a farm in Tract 54, in the eastern part of the township in 1806, where he settled and raised a large family. He was a native of Ireland and a Catholic, and in addition to farming followed the tailor's trade. John Lewis was of Irish descent, and settled in the eastern part of the township. He was a farmer and a member of the Covenanter Church. In this region James, John and Daniel Caldwell settled. They hailed from Ireland, where John had married and his wife died. His brothers were unmarried. They all lived in one cabin until death; Mary, a sister, being their housekeeper. They were adherents of the Catholic faith.

The earliest settlements in the township, however, were made in Oil Creek Valley, in the southern part of the township. The first was that of Jonathan Titus, and his uncle, Samuel Kerr, on the site of Titusville, as mentioned in the sketch of that city. Both had numerous relations who settled in the surrounding country. Daniel Titus and his brother, Peter Titus, the father of Jonathan, settled on the site of Hydetown, about 1804. They were accompanied from Frankstown by James Kerr, brother of Samuel, who settled at Titusville.

Samuel Kerr had located a farm for James just west of Titusville. James settled here, building his cabin in the valley of Oil Creek, near the present property of James McCombs. He was a farmer, a Presbyterian, and for many years a Justice of the Peace. His death occurred in February, 1818.

Another family of Kerrs, consisting of James, Robert and David, three brothers, settled about two and a half miles north of Titusville. They were of Irish extraction and Presbyterians. Robert was a bachelor. The sons of Andrew were William, Jack and Matthew. The last named was in the war of 1812, and was engaged at the battle of New Orleans. He was an eccentric character, and was afterward married with great *eclat* in his regimentals. James raised a large family of children. The family is still quite numerous in the township, and formerly overshadowed all others numerically.

Andrew Kerr, a half-brother of James, Robert and David, came to the township somewhat later, and settled at Kerr's Hill, about two miles west from Titusville. He came from Ireland and adhered to the Presbyterian creed. He remained a life-long farmer of Oil Creek, and left a numerous posterity.

A prominent pioneer family was the Currys, three brothers—James, William and Samuel. They were of Irish extraction, and came very early with their father, John Curry, from Center to Venango County, and a little later the three boys settled on the ridge near the center of Oil Creek Township, where they remained till death. They were Presbyterians.

Other early settlers, all of whom dated their advent into Oil Creek Township prior to 1810, some many years before, were William, Robert, James and John Alcorn, Burnett Davis, Robert Glenn, Adam Holliday, William Hagan, the McCrays, William Mitchell, Thomas McCombs, John McGinnett, John Pastorius, John Miles, William Reed, John Thompson and John Watson. Robert Glenn came in 1804 and settled just north of Titusville on Church Run. He manufactured wooden pails for his neighbors, operated a distillery, and in a few years moved to other regions. Adam Holliday was an Irishman who came from Hollidaysburg. He married Susanna Kerr, and settled on a farm between Titusville and Hydetown. William Hagan, a life-long bachelor, a Presbyterian and an Irishman, settled about a half mile north from Hydetown and there died. James, Samuel, George and William McCray settled in the northeast part. Thomas McCombs, with his brothers Daniel and William, and

his sister Rebecca, came from the eastern part of the State. Thomas was killed in the war of 1812; Daniel remained an old bachelor and William married and reared a family. Rebecca was unmarried. She was a very intelligent woman and could with ease recite long passages from the poets. She was especially versed in Shakespeare and Milton. John McGinnett was an Irishman, and lived in Oil Creek Township through life. John Pastorius settled west of Titusville on the county line. He was of Irish extraction and a strict Presbyterian. John Miles was one of the foremost pioneers, and built his cabin just north of Titusville. William Reed lived a short distance west of the city. He came from Center County, raised his family under the principles of the Covenanter faith, and died in Erie County. John Watson, of Irish descent, settled on Pine Creek east of the city. He was a Methodist and for many years a Justice of the Peace. His earthly career was ended within the limits of Titusville.

The first merchandise was sold in the township about 1810 by James Kerr, at his cabin a half mile west of the city. The stock was owned by Col. Alexander McDowell, of Franklin. The goods were sold for several years. An addition was soon after made to the cabin, and in it Charles Martin, about 1816, in behalf of a Mr. Gilbert, offered for sale an assortment of groceries and dry goods, and an abundant supply of whisky. Many Indians traded here, and they were accustomed to congregate at the store and play various games with the settlers. Sometimes too copious libations made them ugly, but no serious trouble arose.

James Kerr was the first Postmaster. The mail was carried once a week over a route extending from Mayville, N. Y., to Meadville. Alexander Johnson and James Brawley, of Randolph Township, alternately carried the mail on horseback. Samuel Kerr was afterward, in 1818, appointed Postmaster, and held the office for ten years. His commissions at first averaged from $1.25 to $3.75 per quarter.

The first saw and grist-mill in the township was the Holland Mill, so called because it was erected by the Holland Land Company. It stood on Pine Creek, about two miles east of Titusville, and was erected about the year 1798. Joel Green was one of the early millers. Prior to 1810 it passed into the possession of John Watson, who increased its capacity and in 1824 sold the property to Joseph L. Chase & Company. They erected a saw-mill and retained possession until 1854. About ten years later it was abandoned. Peter Titus built an early saw-mill at Hydetown. About 1815 Adam Holliday erected one on Oil Creek, a half mile west of Titusville. A chair factory was afterward in operation at the same place, and the mill dam still remains. John Thompson about 1825 erected a saw-mill on Thompson's Run, about three miles north of Titusville. A new mill was erected later on the same site by David Kerr & Sons, who still operate it.

Charles Ridgway, a millwright by trade, erected an early saw-mill on Little Oil Creek a short distance above Hydetown and a little later James Titus, the son of Daniel Titus, Sr., built another a short distance farther up the stream. Early mills were quite numerous. On both Pine and Oil Creeks and on their tributaries were large quantities of pine timber, which was sawed and rafted down to Pittsburgh. Extensive pine lumbering was thus carried on for many years. Below Titusville but little pine was found on Oil Creek. James and Samuel Kerr and John Lewis were running distilleries in the township in 1810. A little later George Stoner, John Kerr and probably others were distilling the then almost universal beverage.

This is the only township in the county which contained producing oil

wells, though numerous borings were made in all the neighboring townships and in all parts of the county. Wells were numerous on Watson's Flats, as the old derricks still standing amply testify. In the eastern part of the township Jonathan Watson put down the deepest well, except one, ever bored in this county. It was sunk to the depth of 3,500 feet. In April, 1877, a curious phenomenon occurred in Watson's Flats, a common spring began to flow oil at the rate of several barrels per day. Many shallow wells were dug in the valley drift, and probably 10,000 barrels of petroleum was obtained until October, when the pool was exhausted. At present the oil yield from this township is very slight, but it is believed that this field will again be worked.

Dennis Carrol, about 1815, held a subscription term of school about a mile north of Titusville. The Sloans, Fultons, Kellys and others attended. Charles Plum soon after taught on the site of Titusville. Occasionally the children of the pioneers in the southern part of the township attended schools in Venango County. A schoolhouse had been built just south of the county line, wherein school was held for many years. Miss Elizabeth Chase about 1816 taught a mile north of the city; and a little west of the city, William Kelly, an early settler, held a school about 1820 in a building which had formerly been used as a distillery. As the settlements extended and increased, school buildings were gradually reared in all portions of the township.

The township was settled largely by the Irish people. Those who came directly from Ireland were mainly Catholics, while others, many of whom emigrated from Center County, were Presbyterians. Among the early Catholic families were the McIntires, McGuires, Sloans, McDermots and Laverys. In 1827 St. Stephen's Church was built two miles northeast from Titusville. It is a frame, still standing, in which occasional services are yet held, though the members have affiliated with the Titusville Church since its erection. St. Stephen's embraced in its congregation in early times members from Oil City, Franklin, Enterprise, Pleasantville and Tideoute. It was attended at first by Fathers McCabe and Peter Brown, of Erie.

The Alcorns, Mitchells, David and Samuel Henderson and the Watsons were among the earliest Methodist families in this region. The band was small but faithful. It was too weak to build a church, and meetings were held in various places—cabins, schoolhouses, and in summer, barns—commencing soon after the first settlements and continuing with tolerable regularity until the Titusville Church was built.

Bethel Church is a Methodist Episcopal sanctuary, situated on Tract 11, in the northern part of the township. It is a small frame, about 36x46, and was erected in 1856 as the result of a revival conducted by Rev. George Eberman. A class was organized in this vicinity as early as 1825, and among its first members were Andrew Alcorn, Obed Gardner and wife, Isaac Connell and wife, John and Martin Zeley, Barnett Shelmadine and wife, Benjamin Shelmadine and wife, John Colton and wife, and Charles Fink and his father. Early meetings were held at Fink's cabin, then in Colton's Schoolhouse, until the church was built, quarterly meetings having been held in barns and in the forest. The society has about thirty members and is a part of Hydetown Circuit.

Kerr's Hill is a hamlet located about two miles west of Titusville. It contains two churches, Presbyterian and United Presbyterian, a district school of two apartments, a store, blacksmith shop, and about twenty-five families. Gresham Postoffice is located here.

Kerr's Hill Presbyterian Church was formed from the membership of the Titusville Church. Quite a number of the members dwelt in this locality, and

Rev. George W. Hampson, the Titusville pastor, for their accommodation held occasional services in the schoolhouse at Kerr's Hill. Soon after his ministry closed in 1853, the present frame church edifice at Kerr's Hill was built, and its supporters withdrew from Titusville and organized a separate congregation. Revs. Samuel Wykoff, William Elliott, William Smith, John McLaughlin and S. B. Stevenson have ministered here. The last named is the present pastor, and commenced his labors in January, 1883, devoting one-half his time to Kerr's Hill and one-half to Pleasantville, Venango County. The membership is sixty. Early elders were: Peter T. Curry, William McGinnis and William Kerr. The present session consists of G. A. Conover, Amos Hancox and A. B. Kerr.

The United Presbyterian Church of Kerr's Ridge was organized December 6, 1852. The church was erected five years later, in 1857. Andrew A. Kerr and William Mars were chosen Elders. Owing to the death of the latter in 1877 Robert Mack and Benjamin J. Mars were elected to the vacancy. The first pastor was Rev. J. R. Slentz, installed September 1, 1855. His successors have been: Rev. A. Murray, installed February 4, 1860; Rev. John Jamison, installed August 26, 1864; and Rev. J. L. Clark, installed August 12, 1876. The last named closed his pastorate in June, 1883, and at present a vacancy exists. The membership is small.

BOROUGH OF HYDETOWN.

Peter Titus, the first permanent settler at Hydetown, and the father of Jonathan Titus, the founder of Titusville, was brought when a lad by his father, John Titus, from Holland to America. They settled on Staten Island, and afterward removed to Frankstown, this State, at so early a period that they experienced great danger and trouble from the Indians. In 1804, or thereabouts, a few years after Jonathan had immigrated hither, Peter arrived with the remainder of his family. He had but two sons, Jonathan and Daniel; the latter settled at Hydetown, and later in life removed to Marietta, Ohio. The daughters of Peter Titus were: Fanny, who married Charles Ridgway; Olivia, wife of Robert Curry; Ruth, wife of James Curry; and Susan, wife of John Ridgway. Mr. Titus had had no educational advantages, and remained a life-long farmer of this township, reaching a good old age. Daniel Titus, Sr., brother of Peter, some time before 1810 erected the first saw mill in the village. It stood on Little Oil Creek, about a half mile from its mouth, and it was operated until within a few years. Messrs. Hyde were the last owners. Their grist-mill, erected a few years ago, occupies the same site.

In 1797 Robert Curry and his son James had sojourned during the summer on the site of the village, then removed nearer to Titusville. In 1824 Charles Ridgway purchased 800 acres of land, and removed to within the present borough limits, where he remained until death in old age. Elijah Hyde and his son William started the first store. They purchased the Titus Mills, and for many years carried on saw-milling extensively. William Hyde was the first Postmaster. The office was originally called Oil Creek, now Hydetown, and was established about 1856. Benjamin Gilson, a lumberman, came to the place about 1845. Penile Crane opened the first hotel in 1852 or about that date.

The first school was taught as early as 1830 by Miss Sally Shelmadine. The first schoolhouse was erected in 1838. It was a frame structure, 20x24, and stood on the lot occupied by the present school building, the older part of which was erected in 1864, and the addition several years later. It contains three apartments, and about 120 pupils are enrolled.

The village now contains three general stores, a grist-mill, a steam (formerly water) saw-mill, a planing-mill, a stave and shingle-mill, a jelly-mill, three blacksmith shops, two wagon-shops, a shoe-shop, two physicians, two hotels and two religious societies. The grist-mill was built by Swanson & Forsblom, the present owners, in 1880. Its power is procured from three improved water-wheels, of twenty horse-power each, and an extensive business is transacted, The B., N. Y. & P. R. R. passes through the village, which is a shipping point for large quantities of lumber. The population was 428 in 1870, and 405 in 1880.

A petition to incorporate Oil Creek Borough was filed January 18, 1868, and approved by the grand jury the same month. The court confirmed the report April 23, 1868, and appointed W. C. Hyde, Judge, and Titus Ridgway and Daniel Baugher, Inspectors of the first election, directed to be held at the schoolhouse, May 15, 1868. The Burgesses of the village have been as follows: 1868, W. C. Hyde; 1869–70, Reuben Rodgers; 1871–72, L. G. Worden; 1873, J. G. Titus; 1874–75, G. H. Sanford; 1876, E. I. Roffee; 1877, J. E. Paul; 1878, S. S. Spaulding; 1879, Dr. W. A. Baker; 1880, Joseph Fertig; 1881, H. Malin; 1882, J. E. Paul; 1883, C. E. Aiken; 1884, G. H. Sanford. The name of the borough has been changed to Hydetown.

The Hydetown Methodist Episcopal class was organized in 1847 with the following members: Joseph Spaulding and wife. Oran Davenport and wife, Thomas Titus and wife, and Mrs. Baugher, by Rev. John Abbott, then pastor of the Oil Creek Circuit. The membership has fluctuated with the change in the population of Hydetown, and now numbers about sixteen. Among the leaders have been: Oran Davenport, Andrews, Joseph Spaulding, Beatty and Adolphus Spaulding. The society holds meetings in the school hall. Hydetown charge was organized by Rev. John Peat, P. E., in 1874, with Bethel, Hydetown and Tryonville classes. In 1877 East Troy, of Sunville Circuit, was added. The other three were previously part of Titusville Circuit. The pastors of Hydetown Circuit have been: Rev. S. Fidler, 1874–75–76; Rev. J. F. Hill, 1877–78; Rev. J. Abbott, 1879; Rev. Alva Wilder, 1880–81; Rev. J. E. Roberts, 1882–83.

The First Baptist Church of Hydetown was organized April 27, 1879, by Rev. John L. Bailey, the first, present and only pastor. The constituent membership was but four: Mrs. Louisa Ridgway, Mrs. Anna C. Spaulding, Mrs. Helen Kerr and Mrs. Harriet A. Roffee. The present membership is eighteen. Meetings were held in the school hall until the present church was erected. It is a handsome and unique structure, combining church and parsonage, and cost about $1,500 exclusive of lot. It was dedicated October 22, 1882.

The only order of the village is Hydetown Union, No. 372, E. A. U., instituted November 12, 1881. Its first officers were: Daniel Baugher, Chancellor; Samuel B. Vrooman, Advocate; William C. Hyde, President; Mrs. H. G. Thornburg, V. P.; Mrs. Mary M. Jamison, Auxiliary; William C. Fulmer, Secretary; H. Malin, Treasurer; W. A. Baker, Accountant; Mrs. D. Baugher, Chaplain; H. G. Swift, Warden; Mrs. G. H. Sanford, Sentinel; Alexander Lingley, Watchman. The membership is now fifty-three, and meetings are held each alternate Saturday.

The village contains a literary society which has been in successful operation since October, 1881. It numbers about seventy-five members, is largely attended, and has proved a highly instructive and beneficial organization.

CHAPTER XV.

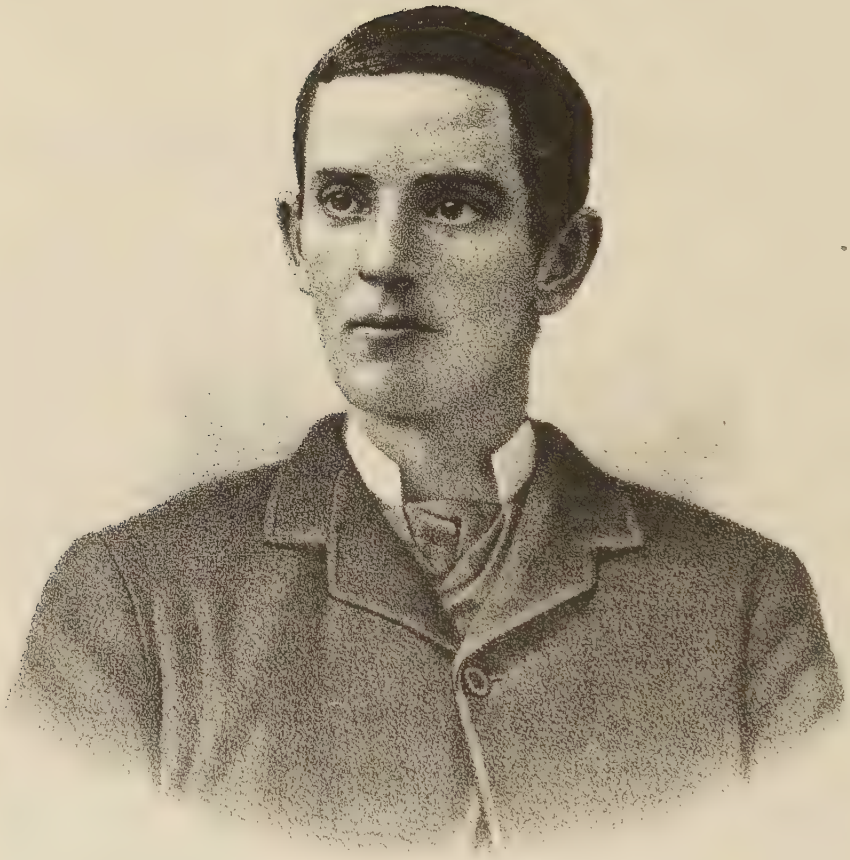
PINE TOWNSHIP.

PINE TOWNSHIP—POPULATION—ORGANIZATION—NAME—PHYSICAL FEATURES—LAND COMPANIES—DEEDS—EARLY SETTLERS—COLT'S NEW STATION.
BOROUGH OF LINESVILLE—LOCATION—ORIGIN—PLAT RECORDED—POSTOFFICE—EARLY SETTLERS—MILL—PRESS—SCHOOL—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES—POLICE COMPANY—INCORPORATION—BUSINESS—PROFESSIONS.

PINE TOWNSHIP is one of the smallest in Crawford County, having an area of 7,133 acres. In 1850 it contained 702 inhabitants; in 1860, 847; in 1870, 343; in 1880, 385. For 1850 and 1860 Linesville is included; the borough since having a separate enumeration. The township was taken from North Shenango in 1845, and includes that part of it which lay northeast of Shenango Creek. The name is derived from the prevailing kind of timber. Much of it was logged and burned, a large amount was sawed into timber for both a local and a foreign market, and some pine logs were rafted down Shenango Creek to New Castle. The pine stumps, owing to the resistance of the roots to natural decay, afford a valuable material for fencing. They have been extracted in large quantities and utilized for this purpose. The surface is level and inclines slightly toward the south. Stock-raising and dairying are the chief agricultural pursuits.

Only the northern portion is tillable, the entire southern part being occupied by the Pymatuning swamp. This vast body of waste land, though extending for many miles in a general northwest and southeast direction, reaching almost to Hartstown, has perhaps a larger area in Pine than any other township. Its area according to a survey made by Col Worrall in 1868 was 9,000 acres. Mr. Alfred Huidekoper wrote of it in 1846: "It has every appearance of having once been a lake, whose bed had been gradually filled up with accumulated vegetable matter. Covered with the cranberry vine, with occasional clumps of alders, and islands of larch and other timber, the subsoil is so loose that a pole can be thrust into it from ten to twenty feet. Ditches that have been cut through it for the purpose of draining, exhibit fallen timber below ground, and the dead stumps of trees still standing in place show by the divergence of their roots that the surface of the soil is now from two to three feet higher than it was when the trees were growing." Canoes have been found buried in the soil. In early times pigeons in immense numbers frequented the place, and could be picked by hand from the bushes. The land is not so miry as in former years, and by drainage much is being reclaimed to agricultural purposes. Whortleberry bushes, swamp willow, witch-hazel, alders and clumps of tamarack or larch and other trees still cover the ground in patches. A dense growth of vegetation is found, consisting of a great variety of plants, among which the beautiful "side-saddle flower" is found in great abundance.

The northern and eastern portions consist of tracts of the Pennsylvania Population Company, while the land in the southwest was a part of the North America Land Company's possessions. The books of the former company when closed in 1812 showed the following disposition of its land in what is



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now Pine, the name of the person agreeing to settle, the date of contract, and the amount of land sold to him:

Tract 734, wholly unsold; 737, Samuel Lord, August 20, 1798, 200 acres, deed delivered to Robert Graham; 738, settled by an intruder; 741, unsold; 742, John McGunnegle, March 1, 1799, 200 acres, improvement of eight acres, made under contract, settled by intruder; same tract, Henry Emmery, April 17, 1805, 100 acres, contract abandoned; 749, Chris Kauffman, May 1, 1798, 200, deed granted Kauffman; 750, settled by an intruder; 751, swamp; 752, Michael Burns, April 1, 1803, 100 acres, abandoned; 757, swamp; 758 (partly in North Shenango), James Robinson, June 26, 1807, 64 acres, settled under contract; 760 (partly in North Shenango), Jacob Barrackman, 100 acres, settled under contract; 763 (partly in North Shenango), William Davis, June 14, 1808, 100 acres, settled under contract; same tract, Hugh Blair, July 6, 1811, 100 acres; 766 (mostly in North Shenango), Mathias Colsher, June 1, 1798, 100 acres, settled under contract.

Most of these early settlers either lived in adjoining townships or soon left the vicinity. Robert Graham was of Irish extraction, a miller by trade, came in 1802, and remained on the farm till his death in old age. His son George now resides there. William Burnside was probably one of those mentioned above as an intruder; that is, he located on a tract of land with the belief that he could hold it by complying with the conditions of the land act, but being worsted in legal combat was obliged to vacate. He was an Irishman, and settled in the northern part of what is now Pine as early as 1797 or 1798. None are known to have been here earlier. In a few years he removed to Meadville, but returned to Linesville, where about 1826 he was killed at a log rolling. He was a blacksmith. Martin Cunningham was another early settler of Pine, and resided in the southern part until his death. He was of Irish nationality, and a Seceder in religion. His son Robert now lives across Shenango Creek, in North Shenango Township. Jane Patterson, a widow, with her sons, James, William and David, settled early about a mile south of Linesville. She was a weaver, and in religious belief a Seceder. After her death the family removed from this vicinity. Another pioneer was Samuel McKay, a bachelor and a recluse. He dwelt just south of Linesville, within what are now the corporation limits, and afterward removed a few miles farther north. Margaret Robinson, probably the widow of James Robinson, is remembered as an early resident. Samuel Glenn came a little later, in 1811.

An attempt to create a village was made by Jabez Colt, agent of the Pennsylvania Population Company, in 1800. When Crawford County was organized he made the futile effort to secure the county seat on the lands of the company he represented in the extreme western part of the county, and to that end built a grist-mill at Linesville, and erected a half dozen log-cabins on the hill, about a half mile north of the village, and near the township line, as a nucleus of the prospective city. A tannery was also started. It was called Colt's New Station, in distinction from Colt's Station, a settlement three miles farther north. In a few years the settlement was abandoned, the country being too new and wild to support it, and the artificial stimulus which started it being withdrawn.

There is neither village nor postoffice in the territory of Pine except Linesville. The first school was probably taught by Joseph Line in 1824, in the northeast part. There are at present four schools in the township.

BOROUGH OF LINESVILLE.

The borough of Linesville is a spacious little village, situated in the north-

east part of Pine Township, and including in its limits the south half of Tract 741 and the north half of Tract 750. It contained in 1870 a population of 432, which in 1880 had increased to 550. The Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad passes through the village, which is also the western terminus of the Meadville & Linesville Railroad.

Amos Line was the proprietor of Linesville. He had been a surveyor in the employ of the Pennsylvania Population Company in 1800. He purchased Tract 741 at $4 per acre, and in 1818 removed to it from his home in Plainfield, N. J. He first built his cabin in the northwest part of his tract, near the township line. Here he kept a small stock of merchandise for sale, but in 1823 his cabin burned to the ground, and he removed with his family to the site of Linesville, where he had previously erected a mill. For two years he occupied an old log-cabin, and in 1825 he moved into a new frame house, which he had built just west of the mill on land now owned by the Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad. It was about 1825 that he laid out the village. The plat was recorded February 2, 1838. It then contained a public square, seventy-five lots, Pymatuning and Mercer Streets extending north and south, and Erie, Mill and Conneaut, east and west. The southern part, laid out by Joseph Allen, was acknowledged March 16, 1842. Mr. Line became the first Postmaster, and the receipts of his office the first quarter were just 25 cents, that being the postage for one letter. He was of the Quaker belief, and a member of a congregation in Conneaut Township. He died in 1853, aged seventy-seven years, leaving a family of four sons and two daughters.

Among the earliest settlers of the village were: William Burnside and Jesse Gilliland, blacksmiths; Moses Lord and William Russell, shoe-makers; Joseph Allen, carpenter; Samuel Shattuck, cooper; Horatio N. Mead, the first tavern-keeper; Smith Line, son of the proprietor, kept the first store, started about 1839; C. S. Stratton built the first tannery about 1837. It is still in operation, owned by Thomas Limber.

A frame mill had been built near the site of the present mill in 1800 by Jabez Colt, while he was trying to secure the county seat in this locality. It was fed by water-power by means of a long race. In a short time the mill was abandoned, and when Mr. Line came to this tract in 1818, he found the mill site a mass of ruins, overgrown by bushes. About 1820, however, he erected a new grist-mill and afterward added a saw-mill. He sold the mill in 1837 to Joseph T. Boyd, and in 1838 the grist-mill was burned. It was rebuilt about 1845 by the Linesville Industrial Association. Under the proprietorship of I. L. Line & Co. the mill was in 1866 again destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt the following year. Taft & Gaiser are the present owners. There is no other grist-mill within a radius of six miles, and a good business is transacted. An extensive lumbering business was formerly done, much of the lumber being teamed to Shermansville and shipped *via* the canal.

The first newspaper venture was made at Linesville in April, 1875, by Britton & McCoy, under the appellation of the *Leader*. It maintained a flickering existence with brief suspensions under the subsequent management of George W. Baldwin and of R. H. Montgomery, until with a subscription list of 149, it passed into the hands, in September, 1881, of H. D. and F. C. Lowing, the present publishers. Under their charge the *Leader*, re-christened the Linesville *Herald*, has met with a large circulation, and proved a valuable property; since September, 1883, it has been issued semi-weekly, Wednesdays and Saturdays. In politics it is Republican. Subsequent to the founding of the *Leader* the Linesville *Gazette* was launched into being by Frank McCoy. After a brief existence it was continued by L. L. Luce, under the name of the *American Citizen*. A few months later its final issue was published.

The first school in Linesville was taught in 1835 by Amos Line, in a log building, which stood on the south side of Main or Erie Street, near the railroad. Joseph Allen was also one of the earliest teachers. The first schoolhouse was erected in 1841 in the extreme eastern part of the borough, at the northwest corner of Main Street. It was a district school containing but one room. A frame building of one apartment was then erected on West Main Street, on the site of the present schoolhouse; an addition was made as the village grew. Next a two-story frame was built on the same lot, and used until the present handsome brick structure was reared in 1880. It contains four apartments, all of which are in use.

The Methodist Episcopal congregation at Linesville is the oldest in the village. Meetings were held for many years in the schoolhouse, and about 1860 the present frame church building, located on West Main or Erie Street was erected. Leading members at that time were: John Thayer, John Rea and A. G. Woods. This appointment was formerly a part of Conneautville and afterward of Shenango Circuit. In 1861 Linesville Circuit was formed. It includes at present, besides Linesville, Shermansville, of Sadsbury Township, and Frey's Chapel, of Conneaut Township. The pastors of this circuit have been: Revs. W. H. Mossman, 1861-62; H. Kinsley, 1863-64; R. C. Smith, 1865-66-67; W. Rice, 1868; O. Babcock, 1869; S. Heard, 1870-71; C. W. Foulke, 1872-73; T. W. Douglas, 1874-75; L. L. Luce, 1876-77; J. A. Hume, 1878; W. H. Hoover, 1879-80; A. J. Lindsey, 1881; John Abbott, 1882; J. F. Stocker, 1883. The present membership is about sixty.

The Baptist congregation in 1852 erected the first church edifice in Linesville. A society of this denomination flourished in pioneer times and worshiped in a log meeting-house which stood on the knoll near the cemetery, about a mile east of Linesville. Rev. McMillan held services here as early as 1818, and among the early members were William Ward, James Bishop, Moses Bishop, Sr., and William Bunnell. The society was maintained for many years. About 1846 a branch of the Georgetown Baptist Church was organized at Linesville and remained in active existence until the present Baptist congregation was organized March 11, 1851, with eighteen members by Rev. E. M. Alden. The frame church building, erected the year following, is located on East Main Street and cost about $2,500. The first Deacons were Israel Ward and William Porter, one of the earliest Clerks, Stephen Bunnell. The present Clerk is B. O. Irons; the present Deacons: William Porter, I. E. Ward and B. O. Irons. Succeeding Elder Alden the following among others have been the Pastors: Revs. J. G. Whitney, O. N. Ney, Fuller, John Hicks, C. H. Fuller, Mills, L. R. Jayne, C. H. Johnson, E. M. Alden and C. T. Jack, the present pastor. The membership is about 130.

St. Philip's Catholic Church of Linesville was erected on South Mercer Street about 1870. For some time previously services had been conducted at private houses. The congregation is now attended by Father Ruddy of Conneautville, and services are held each alternate Sunday. The membership includes about twenty-five families.

The First Universalist Church of Linesville was organized September 28, 1873, with twenty-five members, including A. H. Armstrong, Larkin Sabins, John Brooks, S. C. Stratton, Walter Bond, and N. A. Wilson. Rev. Campbell had conducted services here before the parish was formed and Rev. L. F. Porter followed him and was the first Pastor. His successors have been Revs. J. G. Porter, A. A. McMaster, J. S. Gledhill and C. L. Shipman, who is now in charge. The congregation was organized and meetings have always been held in Stratton's Hall. About sixty persons comprise the membership.

A Liberal League was formed at Linesville a few years ago and for some time had a strong membership, but regular services are no longer held.

Linesville Lodge, No. 395, I. O. O. F., was chartered January 22, 1841, the charter officers being: O. D. Wade, N. G.; Alva Manter, V. G.; Jabez Holcomb, Secretary; Ansel Dennison, Assistant Secretary; Moses Bishop, Jr., Treasurer. After a time the lodge became inactive, but about a year later was reorganized and now has fifty members. Meetings are held every Monday evening.

Mayflower Lodge, No. 97, Daughters of Rebekah, was chartered November 19, 1874, and remained in active working order until 1883.

Pine Lodge, No. 498, F. & A. M., was instituted at Linesville, December 22, 1871. Its charter was granted September 6, 1871, and its first meeting held January 2, 1872. The first officers were: G. T. Rankin, W. M.; C. C. Minneley, S. W.; J. A. Crockett, J. W. Eleven members have been lost by death. The membership is now about forty and meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

Linesville Grange, No. 694, P. of H., was organized April 6, 1876, with thirty-nine members. R. P. Miller was the first Master. The grange now numbers fifty members, and meets the second and fourth Saturday evenings of each month.

Relief Lodge, No. 99, A. O. U. W., was granted a charter June 29, 1876. Its charter officers were: John S. Kean, P. M. W.; George T. Rankin, M. W.; James Hillman, G. F.; Henry Wiser, O.; J. L. Bishop, Recorder; Stephen S. Henry, Financier; Joseph H. Garner, Receiver; C. A. Brown, G.; Hiram Foust, I. W.; William J. Thompson, O. W. The present membership is thirty-seven. Meetings are held every Friday evening.

Olive Branch Council, No. 18, R. T. of T., was organized with twenty-four members. Its charter bears date December 5, 1878, and its first officers were: J. B. Brooks, S. C.; William E. Seelye, V. C.; H. B. Rice, P. C.; Eliza Rice, Chaplain; Lucy Wilson, Recording Secretary; Thomas Limber, Treasurer; Mary A. Burwell, Herald; A. D. Brooks, Deputy Herald; Tillie Brown, Guard; William A. Swift, Sentinel; N. A. Wilson, Medical Examiner. Sixty-five active members are now enrolled, and meetings are held the first and third Saturdays of each month.

Linesville Council, No. 580, Royal Arcanum, was organized with twenty-three members, April 13, 1881. The membership has increased to thirty-seven, and meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

Linesville Union, E. A. U., was organized in December, 1881, with a large membership. Meetings are held each alternate Tuesday, and the members are about sixty in number.

The Linesville Police Company was incorporated by act of the State Legislature April 1, 1873. The following citizens are named as members in the act: R. P. Miller, J. B. Hillman, M. V. Walsh, J. H. Garner, G. T. Rankin, C. C. Minneley, John G. Gaugh, B. F. Wiser and L. D. Shattuck. The object of the company was the protection of its members against losses by larceny and other unlawful conduct, and the detection of criminals. The members were empowered by the act with the authority of police. The company is now connected with the State Horse Police, and has a membership of about forty. Meetings are held quarterly.

Linesville was incorporated by act of Legislature March 22, 1862, by which an election was directed to be held in the following month. The enrollment tax was not paid however within the prescribed limit, and an empowering act was passed March 30, 1864, under which the first election was held in the

spring of 1864. R. P. Miller was the first Burgess elected. The present one is L. E. Bunday.

The mercantile business of Linesville now consists of three dry goods stores, three groceries, two hardware stores, two furniture stores, two clothing stores, two drug stores, one jewelry store and two millinery stores. There are also in the village three good hotels, a meat-market, a bakery, a livery stable, one marble works, a photograph gallery, two harness-shops, several shoe and blacksmith shops, a wagon shop, tannery, flour and saw and planing-mill. The professions are represented by four physicians, two lawyers and a dentist.

CHAPTER XVI.

RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP.

LOCATION—ORGANIZATION—LANDS—POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—SETTLEMENTS—LAND TITLES—PIONEERS—SOLDIERS' TITLES—LATER SETTLERS—MILLS—SCHOOLS—GUY'S MILLS—SOCIETIES—CHURCHES.

RANDOLPH is an interior eastern township, bounded on the north by Richmond, on the east by Steuben and Troy, on the south by Wayne and on the west by Mead. It was organized in 1824 from Mead, Rockdale and Oil Creek, and its original limits included the western part of the Seventh Donation District, land which now comprises the northern half of Randolph, the greater part of Richmond and the western part of Troy, Steuben and Athens. The township was changed to its present outlines in 1829. The northern part is a portion of the Seventh Donation District, the southeast part of the Sixth Donation District, while the southwest corner is Holland Company land. The area is 25,188 acres. The population in 1850 was 1,260; in 1860, 1,597; in 1870, 1,732, and in 1880, 1,869—a constant increase. The principal streams are Sugar Lake Creek, flowing southward into Wayne, and Woodcock Creek, passing northward into Richmond. The surface is rolling. The soil is well adapted to grazing, and produces good crops. A portion of the land in early times was marshy, but clearing has made it tillable. The chief varieties of woods were maple, beech, white and black ash, poplar, cucumber, cherry, chestnut, elm and oak.

The first settlement was made on the Holland tracts in the southwest part. The conditions of residence and improvements on these lands, essential to maintain a valid title, stimulated the Holland Company to place an occupant on each tract at the earliest possible date. One hundred acres were offered as a gratuity for fulfilling the terms of settlement, and many Western emigrants gladly availed themselves of this opportunity to procure a little home. The records of the company exhibit the following, relative to the tracts in Randolph Township:

Tract 197, Beriah Battles purchased 75 acres in 1805; 198, Archibald Stewart purchased 153 acres in 1805; Tracts 199 and 213, James and John Brawley, 200 acres each, contract for settlement November 2, 1798, deeds executed; Tract 200, Alexander and Joseph Johnson, 150 acres, July 22, 1797, deed executed to Alex Johnson, Jr.; Tract 212, Samuel Daniels, 150 acres, August 13, 1799; Tract 214, John Daniels, 100 acres, December 13,

1799, deed executed to Andrew McFadden, Assignee; Tract 215, Abraham Daniels, 100 acres, July 9, 1801, deed executed; Tract 216, Daniel Daniels, 100 acres, December 13, 1799, deed delivered to Adam Stanbrook, assignee.

Both by the record above and by the tradition preserved by the oldest inhabitants the honor of making the first settlement must be ascribed to Alexander and Joseph Johnson, father and son. Joseph Johnson, when a lad of but eighteen years, journeyed afoot from his home in Dauphin County to seek his fortune in the then Northwest. He reached Meadville about June 1, 1797, and thence proceeding eastward he selected a tract upon which to locate, and made a contract in his own and father's name with the Holland Company for its settlement. That same summer he built a small shanty, with roof of tree boughs, and dwelt therein till autumn, when he retraced his steps to his old home. In the following spring, with his father's family, he again reached the Western wilderness. A rude log-hut was at once constructed and the arduous labor of pioneer life began. They settled on Tract 200 and there remained through life, one of the most prominent families of pioneer times. Alexander Johnson, Sr., died in 1823. His children were: Joseph, Alexander, Andrew, James, Margaret and Jane. James and Andrew moved away. Alexander and Joseph remained in the township through life. The latter died June 7, 1861.

James Brawley was the second pioneer. In 1797 or 1798, accompanied by his brother John, who remained only a short time, he left his home in Lycoming County, and built a cabin on Tract 199. Clearing a small piece of land, he planted it with potatoes, procuring the seed at Franklin and carrying it upon his back through the woods up French and Sugar Creeks along an Indian path. He then joined a surveying party in Erie County, and in the fall returned to dig his potatoes. He found his cabin occupied by Indians, who supposing it abandoned had dug and eaten his potatoes and were preparing to depart. They opened their packages, and in compensation each shared with him his furs and dried meat. With the proceeds of these he purchased wheat, which he sowed and then returned to Lycoming County. The following spring, accompanied by his mother's family, he returned to his new home, arriving in June. The journey lasted six weeks and like all pioneer emigration in those times was attended with great difficulties. They made their way through the woods with an ox-team, driving before them several cows, the milk from which was placed in a churn and converted into butter by the motion of the wagon. When the destination was reached Mr. Brawley had only 25 cents in money, and this was expended in the purchase of a quart of salt. No mills were accessible and the family subsisted for some time on frumenty. Mr. Brawley learned in the fall that a mill had been erected by the Holland Company on Pine Creek near Titusville, and putting four bushels of wheat upon an ox, he started for the mill through the trackless forest with only a pocket compass for a guide. Six days were consumed in the trip. At night he removed the load from the ox and turned it out to browse, while he built a fire beside which he encamped, and to which the ox would come when it had appeased its hunger. James Brawley was Justice of the Peace for many years. He and Alexander Johnson took the contract to carry the mail once a week between Meadville and Mayville, N. Y. The journey they performed alternately on horseback, and commencing as early as 1818, continued for a number of years. Mr. Brawley was married in 1800 to Mary, daughter of William Glenn, of Mead Township. He died at the age of seventy four, leaving nine children, five of whom survive, the eldest, Francis, aged seventy-eight years, a resident of Mead Township. Hugh Brawley, a

brother of James, accompanied him to this township and settled on Tract 213, where he remained through life. He married Lucy Daniels and left six children. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Of the other settlers of the Holland Tracts, the Daniels were a numerous family. There were: Samuel, John, Daniel and Abraham, and their sisters Mary, wife of Andrew McFadden, Sarah, wife of Joseph Armstrong, and Lucy, wife of Hugh Brawley. All were farmers, and all settled in Randolph, except John who first settled in Mead Township, and died in Richmond. All were members of the Methodist Church, and Abraham was a local minister. Daniel built a small powder-mill prior to 1810, and supplied his neighbors, fond of hunting, with gunpowder. Amos Daniels was also a pioneer. Beriah Battles, who contracted to settle Tract 199 and an adjoining one in Mead Township, built his cabin on the township line at Frenchtown. He did not remain long here, but emigrated to Ohio. Adam Stanbrook was a settler of Mead Township. Archibald Stewart came from Lycoming County and settled on Tract 198, where he remained engaged in farming till death. In his earlier life he also followed weaving. He was a Presbyterian and left a large family, now widely scattered. Andrew McFadden, who settled on Tract 214, remained there till death, leaving a family which is now scattered. He was a Methodist.

The settlement of the Donation Districts occurred much later. Few of the soldiers who drew tracts here made settlement, and for many years the ownership of much of the land was unknown, but held by non-residents. Isaac Berlin, a Revolutionary soldier, drew Tract 1501 in the extreme northwestern corner of the township. He brought his family to it from across the mountains and commenced a settlement. The solitude or unresponsive character of the soil proved irksome and he soon left, purchasing a farm on French Creek in Woodcock Township. A Revolutionary hero named Mehaffy is remembered as a settler for a short time. Dennis Kane, however, was the only soldier of the Revolution who made a permanent settlement within the township. He was an Irishman, and settled prior to 1810, perhaps as early as 1805, on Tract 1181 in the southern part of the township. He built his cabin in the woods several miles remote from any habitation and remained a life-long and respected citizen. Michael Radle was the foremost pioneer of the northern part. He was by birth a German, and in 1806 emigrated with his family from Philadelphia and settled on Tract 1448, about one and a half miles northeast from Guy's Mills. For many years he had no neighbors nearer than three or four miles, but with the aid of his sons, William, Andrew and John, he industriously cleared and tilled the land and remained its life-long occupant. His grandchildren still possess the soil.

In 1815 the township showed few if any indications of habitation save the little clearings made by the above settlers. The donation lands were unclaimed by their owners and large numbers of the donation tracts were sold by the County Commissioners for delinquent taxes. A company consisting of Jacob Guy, Melanchthon Wheeler and Troop Barney, all of Whitehall, Washington Co., N. Y., purchased a large quantity of land at the tax sale. Another company composed of George Barney, Ward Barney and William A. Moore, of Washington County, N. Y., also made large investments in these tax titles, and sold their claims to incoming settlers. Extensive litigation grew out of these sales, the representatives of the soldiers often appearing and contesting the validity of the tax sales. Compromises were sometimes effected, but the original warrantees often maintained their claims and the tax titles were in consequence viewed with distrust. There were tracts within the district which had not been drawn by the soldiers. These could be entered by any settler and the title secured by paying to the State the amount required by law.

Jacob Guy, a member of the first company mentioned above, in 1815 immigrated to the township, after having resided for two years at Meadville. He was born near Concord, N. H., and was a graduate of Dartmouth College. He settled at Guy's Mills, was the first Justice of the Peace, and was prominently identified with the interests of the township, in the development of which he was largely instrumental. A large portion of the early settlers on the Donation land hailed from Washington County, N. Y. Among the earliest to arrive after Mr. Guy, in 1815 or 1816, were Russell Matteson, Joel Jones and Moses Gilbert. Mr. Matteson settled on Tract 1419, about two miles east of Guy's Mills, Mr. Jones on 1455, south of the village, and Mr. Gilbert who came in 1818, also on 1419.

Other pioneers from Washington County, N. Y., who came before 1824, most of them several years before, were: Andrew Braymer, Elkanah Barney, Joshua Barlow, Ezra Carpenter, Isaac Childs, Hiram Cornwall, Alfred Curtis, Samuel Hatch, Luke Hotchkiss, James McLaughlin, Nathan Southwick and Joseph Whitney. Andrew Braymer settled on Tract 1462 in the northern part of the township; Elkanah Barney came prior to 1821 and settled on Tract 1492, a mile southwest from Guy's Mills; Joshua Barlow about 1824, on Tract 1494 on the west line of the township; Ezra Carpenter before 1821, on 1491, west of Guy's Mills; Isaac Childs in 1821, on 1410, in the northeast part; Hiram Cornwall, who a few years later moved away, on 1383, in the extreme eastern part; Alfred Curtis, on 1458; Samuel Hatch, who came in February, 1821, on 1461, in the northern part; Luke Hotchkiss on 1494, in the western part; James McLaughlin, who was originally from Vermont, on 1486, in the northwestern part; Nathan Southwick, who came in 1821 on 1457, near Guy's Mills; Joseph Whitney was here but a short time.

The following were also residents of the Seventh Donation District in this township in 1824, many of them having settled years before. Philip Cutshall was one of the earliest. He was a Pennsylvania German, and came with his sons, George, Jacob and John, from his home in Cumberland County. The date of their arrival was 1814. Philip secured a farm on Tract 1450, afterward the home of his son Jacob; George on Tract 1447, and John on Tract 1422, all in the northern part of the township. Leonard Hall came in 1817, and settled on Tract 1484, more familiarly known as Hickory Corners, in the northern part of the township. He walked all the way from Vermont, was married in 1820, and remained a life-long resident of the township. William Waid came in 1816 from the State of New York and settled on Tract 1458, just north of Guy's Mills. His brothers, Seth and Warner, settled on 1459, an adjoining tract. James Wyman came to Tract 1451, near the township center, in 1820 or earlier; he died near Conneaut Lake. John Dickson, a carpenter, came from Boston and remained till death on Tract 1457, near Guy's Mills. John and Nathaniel Davidson, brothers from Massachusetts, settled on Tract 1460, north of Guy's Mills. Thomas McFadden, who was reared in this county, purchased and cleared a farm on Tract 1424, in the northeast part. John Pearl, who died in Richmond Township, settled on Tract 1421. William Stewart, the son of Archibald Stewart, obtained a home on Tract 1412, in the eastern part. Elias Thayer settled early on Tract 1453.

In the southeast part of the township, within the Sixth Donation District, John Oaks was one of the first settlers. He came with a large family from Massachusetts about 1816, and remained until death. John Byham also came early, and Lemuel Smith and Jonas Byham, both from Worcester County, Mass., had settled here before the organization of the township. Messrs. Pickett and McKay were also early settlers. James Douglas had settled in

this region prior to 1810, but later removed to Meadville, where he died. The period of the most rapid immigration was probably from 1820 to 1830, though it was many years later before the township was thoroughly settled.

James Brawley built the first saw-mill. It stood on his farm and obtained its power from a small branch of Sugar Creek. A year or two later Jacob Guy erected one in the wilderness at Guy's Mills. George Cutshall soon after constructed one, and in time they were started in various parts of the township. Quite a number are yet in operation, including Carpenter's, Horace Sikes' and Squire Sikes', all on Woodcock Creek, and Bousson's, Kightlinger's, Streit's, Byham and Woodcock's, Bauchot's and Hank's Steam Mills in the southern part.

The earliest school in the township was taught by John Kane, a son of Dennis Kane, about 1813, in a little log-schoolhouse which stood on Tract 212, near the southwestern corner of the township. The Johnsons, Brawleys, McDills and Daniels attended. Henry Thurston, son of David Thurston, of Mead Township, and Allison DeFrance, son of James DeFrance, another pioneer of the same township, also taught here. A second log-schoolhouse was reared in the same vicinity about 1820, and Allison DeFrance was its first teacher. An early school was held in the upper story of a barn near Guy's Mills by Miss Mary H. Guy.

Guy's Mills, the only village of the township, is located in the western part. It is surrounded by a rich agricultural region, and is the chief trading-point of the farming community for many miles around. Its population in 1880 was only 150, increased now to about 200, yet the village contains four general stores, filled with a much greater and more varied stock of goods than is usually found in places of its size. Jacob Guy made the first settlement here in 1815, the region about it being then an unbroken wilderness. A year or two later he built a saw-mill, and one has ever since been in operation. About 1828 Noah Hall offered a small stock of goods for sale, and for several years supplied the neighboring citizens with a few commodities. Jacob Guy opened a store of much greater magnitude about 1833, and maintained it many years. James Foreman about 1838 opened the first tavern. A postoffice was secured. About 1860 the village consisted only of perhaps a half a dozen houses, a store and a saw-mill. A few years later it began to increase in size, and has been slowly and steadily growing since. Besides its general stores it contains a tin-shop, a harness shop, two blacksmith shops, two carriage shops, two furniture stores, an excellent hotel, a feed and grain store, a new steam and water grist-mill, a saw-mill, a fine school building of two apartments, erected about 1872 at a cost of $1,600, two physicians, three societies and three handsome frame churches.

Randolph Grange, No. 190, P. of H., which meets here, was organized in 1875 with P. M. Cutshall as Master. It meets the second and fourth Saturdays of each month, and has a membership of about fifty.

Harmony Lodge, No. 863, K. of H., was instituted January 26, 1878, with nine charter members, as follows: D. S. Cutler, E. S. Cutler, H. E. Hatch, J. A. Graham, W. N. Gilbert, A. N. Curtis, G. Bentley, D. C. Blanchard and C. Hatch. The membership is now forty-seven. Meetings are held every Saturday night.

Loyal Council, No. 26, R. T. of T., was instituted with twenty-five members, January 21, 1879. Its first officers were: E. S. Cutler, S. C.; Lewis Oaks, V. C.; Samuel Ford, P. C.; S. S. Sikes, Chaplain; A. J. Hanks, Secretary; M. W. Hall, Treasurer; C. L. Hall, Herald; James W. Braymer, Guard; George Lemmon, Sentinel. Meetings are held each alternate Tuesday. The membership is twenty-nine.

The Baptist Church of Guy's Mills was organized as "Mead Baptist Church" at Dewey's Corners, Mead Township, in 1820, with the following ten members: Joel Jones and his wife Rhoda, Mrs. Lovey Wood, Benjamin Sweney and his wife Mehitable, John Pratt and Rebecca, his wife, Russell Matteson and wife Phebe, and Levi Dewey. Large accessions were soon after made, including Jacob Jenins, Samuel Hatch, Andrew Braymer, Moses H. Pike, Alfred Curtis, John Chapman, Ezra Carpenter, Calvin Hatch, Samuel Hall and others. For a year meetings were held in Mead Township, then in the schoolhouse at Guy's Mills until 1826, when a frame meeting-house, the first religious structure in the township, was erected on the site of the present structure, which was completed in 1868 at a cost of $1,800. Rev. Oliver Alfred was the first pastor. The following have succeeded him: Elders George Miller, Adrian Foot, Enos Stewart, Thomas R. Clark, Norman Thomas, Levi Howard, Zabina Leavitt, George A. Hubbard, George Snyder, Edward H. Hovey, Elder Adams and others. Elder Alcott Thomas is the present pastor. The membership is thirty-seven. This was the first Baptist Church organized in Crawford County east of French Creek, and several other congregations in adjoining townships have been formed from its membership.

The Methodist society at Guy's Mills had its origin in a small class organized about 1822, at the house of Daniel Hunt, in Richmond Township. Worship was continued in that township until about 1848, when a frame structure, called Pisgah Church, was built at "Hickory Corners," in the northern part of Randolph. Delos Crouch, Daniel and Luther Hunt were at that time leading members. Services were conducted here until 1871, when a society was formed at Guy's Mills from the membership of Pisgah Church and a few members from Mount Hope. In 1871 the handsome frame edifice was reared at a cost of $3,500. Since then this congregation has been a part of Townville Circuit, except from 1881 to 1883, when it was attached to Meadville Circuit. The membership is about seventy.

The First Congregational Church of Randolph was organized as a Presbyterian and Congregational society October 31, 1825, and as a Congregational Church in 1839. Rev. Amos Chase, of Titusville, and Rev. Timothy Alden, of Meadville, held early Presbyterian services in this locality before the church was formed. Its leading early members were: Jacob Guy and wife, Archie Stewart and wife, Ichabod Parker and wife, John Kane and wife, Mrs. James Brawley, Warner Waid, Seth Waid and wife, James McLaughlin and wife, Mrs. Hugh Brawley, and Joshua Barlow and wife. Meetings were held at the schoolhouse until 1845, when a frame church was erected at Guy's Mills. Rev. L. L. Radcliff was an early minister for many years. The church was in 1871 remodeled and enlarged at a cost of about $5,000. Since then the Pastors have been: Revs. Sexton, Samuel Walker, R. F. Markham, Irons, Roseboro and S. H. Thompson. The membership is 140.

Methodist meetings were held at the cabins of the Daniels in the southwest part of the township as early as 1812. They were continued regularly until about 1825, when a powerful revival swelled the membership, and a frame church, known as "Guy's," was built about a half mile south from Guy's Mills. Leading members then were: John Smith, David Jones, David Hanks, Reuben Smith, Thomas Wilder and William Waid. The society was regularly maintained here until 1858, when, the building having become dilapidated, Mount Hope Church was built at a cost of $900, on a lot donated by Levi Oaks, on Oil Creek road, in the southern part of the township, the society erecting it consisting of the congregations of the old Guy's Church, and the members of a class which had been organized about a year before a mile

further south in Wayne Township. Prominent members at that time were: D. W. Bannister, Joel Smith, Stephen Reese, John Oaks and Smith Byham. The membership is fifty-eight. The society is a part of Townville Circuit.

Near the southeast corner of the township stands East Randolph Church, erected in 1866 at a cost of $1,275. The society was formed in 1850 by Rev. Edwin Hull, the first Pastor, and, until the erection of the church, worshiped in the schoolhouse on the opposite side of the road. Mark Bogardus and wife, Nicholas Bogardus and wife and Mr. Loveless were early members. The society now numbers about thirty members, and is attached to Sunville Circuit, composed of five appointments, four of which are in Venango County.

CHAPTER XVII.

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP.

BOUNDARIES—PHYSICAL FEATURES—DONATION LANDS—SOLDIERS' CLAIMS—PIONEERS—TANNERY—MILLS—CHEESE FACTORIES—EARLY SCHOOLS—NEW RICHMOND—LYONA—CEMETERIES—CHURCHES.

RICHMOND is an interior eastern township, bounded on the north by Rockdale, on the east by Athens and Steuben, on the south by Randolph, and on the west by Woodcock. It is approximately six miles square, and has an area of 20,993 acres. Woodcock Creek, flowing westward through the southern part, is the principal stream. Muddy Creek crosses the northeast corner, where it is met by Mackey Creek, flowing eastward through the northern part. The surface in general is rolling. Wide valleys skirt the streams, and from them gradual slopes arise, above which, ridges comparatively level are found. In the southeast part are some lowlands. On the ridges the timber is principally oak and chestnut, with an admixture of hickory, beech and other species. The soil is here a gravelly clay. On the low, wet lands, hemlock timber prevails, and where the lowland is dry are found beech and maple trees interspersed with white ash, butternut, cucumber and other varieties. The soil in the lowlands is a gravelly loam.

Richmond Township consists mainly of land belonging to the Seventh Donation District. In the northern part is a narrow strip, a portion of the Eighth Donation District, and between the two is a gore, having an average width in this township of perhaps a half a mile, which, by the inaccuracy of the early surveys, was included in neither Seventh nor Eighth Donation Districts. All that part within the Seventh District was a portion of Mead Township until 1824, when Randolph was organized, while the narrow strip along the northern border remained a part of Rockdale until 1829, when Richmond was erected from parts of Rockdale and Randolph. By act of April 23, 1829, the place for holding elections was fixed at the house of Joseph Clark. The population in 1850 was 1,139; in 1860, 1,640; in 1870, 1,399; and in 1880, 1,490.

Although the land of Richmond was set apart by the State in payment to her Revolutionary soldiers for their services, no veteran is known to have made this his home. The warrant granted him by the Commonwealth for a tract of western land was held in low repute, and often bartered for a trifle to land

speculators, who often searched out the scattered heroes of the Revolution and obtained their titles. No concerted action similar to that put forth by the land companies in the western part of the county was made, nor was any possible. If, perchance, a venturesome pioneer obtained a warrant for land, he had not the power of selection, but must find the lot from among hundreds of other lots, and the probabilities were that it would be many miles remote from any other habitation. This and many other reasons conspired to delay the settlement of Richmond and adjacent military land long after other portions of the county were occupied. It was not till 1817 that the first successful effort to wrest a home from this silent wilderness was made. A previous occupation of the soil by several families had been made in the northeast portion of the township, little patches of ground were cleared and planted, but, whether driven by the desolateness of the region and tiring of their long-continued isolation from other settlements, or discouraged by an unproductive soil, they abandoned their cabins after a few years' residence prior to 1817. Among these transitory settlers were George Miller, who afterward settled in Rockdale, and a Mr. Falkonburg.

Ebenezer Hunt, still living at the age of eighty-eight on the farm he first settled, was the first permanent pioneer. He left his native State, Vermont, in the fall of 1815, and traveling most of the way on foot, reached Erie County, where he passed the winter. The next winter he spent at Meadville, and in the spring of 1817, having purchased from James Herrington for $500 Tract 1,466, containing 200 acres, which had been sold at commissioners' sale for taxes, Ebenezer and his brother Daniel Hunt, both unmarried, made their way through the tangled forest from Guy's Mills, then the nearest habitation, to their purchase. A brush camp, hastily erected beside a fallen hemlock, served as a shelter until the two brothers, without any assistance, built a round-log cabin, about twelve by fourteen feet. With their axes a floor was split out from the timber, a rude door was fashioned, and a table and other articles provided, as they brought no furniture with them. Their rude dwelling and desolate environment was the typical backwoods home, the same, with trifling difference, that every pioneer possessed, and which a life-time of unremitting toil scarcely sufficed to surround with ordinary conveniences. Ebenezer Hunt was married in 1822 to Lavinia Hatch, of Randolph Township, and has since passed his life, till beset with the infirmities of age, in tilling the soil. Daniel Hunt was also married here, and about thirty years ago removed with his family to Wisconsin, and died in Iowa. David Hunt, the father of Ebenezer and Daniel, emigrated with his family in 1820 and settled with his sons, remaining until death.

In 1817 another settlement was made in the northern part of the township by Gould M. Lord, a young man hailing from Connecticut. He remained many years, and his two brothers and father took up residences in the same locality. Michael Bresee, from Ontario County, N. Y., arrived in 1819, and settled in the northern part of the township, where he died. He was an active, energetic pioneer. About the same time Russell Flint, from Chautauqua County, N. Y., settled on the State road, about one and a half miles east of New Richmond. He was a Methodist, and remained on his farm until his decease in old age. William Sanborn came about 1820 with his brothers, David, Moses and Samuel, and their parents from Canada, and settled on Tract 1437 in the north part of the township. A short time after all left this region except William, who remained awhile, removed from place to place, and died in the summer of 1881 at Townville. He was a Baptist. Equally as early was the settlement of George Miles, a sea Captain from New Haven, Conn.,

who became a resident of the northern part of Richmond. His early occupation proved the master passion, and he went to Erie and resumed his sea-faring life. Chester Jones was a neighbor to Miles in his backwoods home, and likewise moved away. Robert Townley, a native of Ireland, emigrated to Erie County, and thence came to Richmond in 1821, settling in the southwest part, and remaining through life. Jasper Lyon, from Whitehall, N. Y., about 1818 emigrated to the Cussewago, and in 1821 came to Tract 1442, where he spent the remainder of his life. Hollis Hull, from Washington County, N. Y., came in 1822. Ananias Phillips, from the same county, emigrated in 1824, in which year Jesse Wheelock, a native of New Hampshire, removed to Richmond from Erie County. Other early settlers were: Joseph Miller and Joseph Clark, from Washington County, N. Y., Samuel, Gilbert, John and Israel Cannon, John White and Isaac Baldwin, from Chautauqua County, N. Y., and Thomas Delamater. It was about 1820 that active settlement began, but twenty years later there was still much unoccupied land in the township.

Thomas Delamater was born in Whitehall, N. Y., July 15, 1798. In 1822 he came with his wife and one child to Crawford County, remaining for a short time in Athens Township, near Centreville. Doubting the integrity of his title to the land here, he removed to the western part of Richmond, where he spent the main part of his life. He died November 26, 1868, at Town ville, whither he had removed several years previous, leaving seven children.

In 1826 the township was made memorable by the settlement of John Brown, the rash, impetuous foe of negro slavery. He was born in Torrington, Conn., May 9, 1800, and at the age of five removed with his father to Hudson, Ohio, where at the age of fifteen he commenced under his father the tanner's trade. Deep religious convictions led him to a course of study with a view to the Congregational ministry, but inflammation of the eyes obliged him to relinquish it. He married Dianthe Lusk in 1820, and six years later adopted a pioneer life by his removal to this township. He settled on an uncleared tract, 1432, situated immediately south of what is now New Richmond Postoffice, and here erected a tannery, a quaint and small stone structure, still pointed out to the passing traveler and now used as a jelly factory. Besides attending to his trade he cleared a large farm and engaged in stock-raising, bringing the first blooded cattle into the township. He at once became an energetic, prominent young citizen in the community, and bore the reputation of strictest integrity and veracity. It is averred that he refused to sell his leather until it was completely dry as human ingenuity could make it, that his customers might not suffer by the least decrease in weight. By his efforts a mail route was secured and himself appointed Postmaster. He organized a Congregational Church, which, however, had not sufficient strength to long outlive his departure. His wife died in 1832, and the year following he married Miss Mary A. Day, of Meadville. In 1835 he removed to Franklin Mills, Ohio. While in Richmond Township he was a strong advocate of slavery abolition, but withal maintained the confidence and esteem of both political friend and foe. His many neighbors, Republicans and Democrats alike, deplored his fate, and if not in accord with his philanthropic sentiments threw the mantle of charity over his rash deeds by believing his impulses for the liberation of the African race too powerful to be restrained.

The tannery of John Brown was the first in the township. After his removal it was operated for awhile by Rev. Butt, a Methodist minister, then by Ira Clark. After a lengthy period of repose it was converted into a cheese-factory, and in the autumn of 1883 it was occupied as a jelly factory and

corn-grinding mill, which latter uses it at present subserves. About a half mile below Lyona, on Woodcock Creek, Jasper Lyons constructed an early saw-mill. Before getting it ready for operation he sold it to Anthony Phillips. It was little used. A second mill was built on the same site about 1850 by Alonson Lyon. It has repeatedly changed hands, and is now owned by Mr. Sybrant. A small corn-cracker is attached to it. Capt. Miles in early times erected a saw-mill on a branch of Muddy Creek, about two miles north from New Richmond. W. W. Green owns a steam saw-mill in the east part of the township, and William Morse one in the north part. Three cheese factories are in operation: Stewart's, in the southeast part; Morse's, in the northern, and Pinney & Nodine's, in the western. Dairying and lumbering are both actively engaged in.

The first school in the south part of the township was held in 1826 in the newly completed barn of Ebenezer Hunt. His sister, Sarah Hunt, was the teacher, and her compensation was $1 per week. A single term was held here, the children of Jasper Lyon, David Stewart and others attending. The northern part of the township was equally destitute of early school accommodations, and about the same time a term was held in a newly built corn-crib and hog-pen combined on the farm of Gould M. Lord. Probably the first schoolhouse in the township was a small log building erected near the present Baptist Church. Titus Johnson and George Delamater were early teachers in it.

Richmond is a rural township, containing no villages. New Richmond is a hamlet and a postoffice, located about a half mile east of the township center. It includes two stores, a town-house, a grange hall, a blacksmith-shop, the John Brown jelly factory and a half dozen dwellings. David Stewart and Ira Clark kept the first store, as early or earlier than 1835. It stood about a half mile east of New Richmond. Ira Clark was also the first merchant at the site of this hamlet, opening his stock of goods for sale about 1835.

The only other postoffice in the township is Lyona, situated in the southern part. Here may be found a store, a church, schoolhouse, shoe shop, blacksmith-shop and several families. The office was established in 1868, and has had the following Postmasters: T. A. Stewart, John Fross, B. L. Lyon, D. B. Chapin and G. L. Sybrant. During its brief term of life it has rejoiced in three names: first Lyon's Hollow, then Lines, now Lyona. A postoffice was formerly kept a short time at Teepletown, in the north part of the township.

Within the limits of the township are three places of general burial: Townley's graveyard, in the western part; Lyon's, near Lyona, and one at New Richmond.

The first religious organization in the township was a Methodist class formed about 1822 by Rev. Hatton, in the cabin of Daniel Hunt. Jasper Lyon, David Hunt and wife, Ananias Phillips, John Davidson, Luther Wilder and Delos Crouch were among its earliest members. For a little while the class worshiped in the cabin of Mr. Hunt, then a schoolhouse was built in the western part of Tract 1466, wherein services were held until about 1848. A meeting-house was then erected at Hickory Corners, Randolph Township, and the home of the society passed without the limits of Richmond.

A Congregational Church was formed during the residence in the township of John Brown, who was its leading spirit. Besides him Calvin Wilder and wife and a few others were members. Meetings were held for a time in the second floor of Brown's tannery and in a schoolhouse, but the congregation was not sufficient numerically to maintain existence very long.

Richmond Baptist Church was organized December 25, 1841, with fifteen constituent members, including Ebenezer Hunt and wife, Mrs. Elizabeth

Hatch, Osman Stewart and wife, Benjamin Carr and wife, Miss Minerva Miller, Mrs. Eunice Mason, Ephraim Blackmer and wife, Samuel Little and wife and Elder E. H. Stewart and wife. Meetings were first held in a log schoolhouse which stood at the corners near the present church, then in a schoolhouse near Sybrant's store, next in the present schoolhouse, erected partly through subscriptions from the congregation, until the present structure was erected in 1866. It is situated in the northwest part of Tract 1443, near Lyona Postoffice, and cost $3,500. Revs. E. H. Stewart, Warren Bradford, William Lamb, C. W. Drake, G. W. Snyder, Jacob Morris, John Owens, C. T. Jack, Carey Stewart and O. Thomas have served the congregation as pastors. The membership is now about one hundred.

In the southeast part of the township, on Tract 1428 is a Spiritualist Church, erected about 1874, on land donated by Jesse Winans. Besides him Cyrus Judd, Albert Winans and Benjamin Franklin were early members. Prior to the erection of the church, meetings of this faith had been held for a long time but years have now elapsed since services were discontinued.

The township contains three edifices and three societies of the Methodist Episcopal Church. At New Richmond is a frame meeting-house, built in 1864 at a cost of $1,200. The class which worships here was organized about 1836 by Rev. Walter B. Lloyd, the first pastor. Ananias Phillips and wife, Russell Flint and wife and Hollis Hull were early members. Until the present church was erected services were held in the Griswold Schoolhouse, located about a mile east of the sanctuary. This church is a part of Rockville Circuit and has a membership of about one hundred.

North Richmond class was organized about 1840 and its leading early members were: James and William Morse, Franklin Lord, Emerson Chamberlin, Tracy Turner, Patrick Perry, David Mackey, David Gray and James Wilkinson. Services were held in the Warner Schoolhouse until 1854 when the present frame building was erected. The church now numbers over forty members and is a part of Rockville Circuit.

Van Scoder's Methodist Episcopal Church is in the northeast part of Richmond. A class organized here forty years ago, was maintained for many years. The present society was formed about 1877. Services were held in the schoolhouse until 1882 when the present neat, commodious structure, 34x48, was erected at a cost of about $1,800. The membership is thirty and the class is connected with Rockville Circuit.

CHAPTER XVIII.

ROCKDALE TOWNSHIP.

ORIGINAL BOUNDARIES—PRESENT LIMITS—POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—EARLY MILLS—LAND TITLES—EARLY SETTLERS—OTHER MILLS—FIRST SCHOOLS—ROADS—MILLER'S STATION—CHURCH—CEMETERY—BROWN HILL.

ROCKDALE TOWNSHIP was created October 8, 1800. Its boundaries as then established were as follows: beginning at the mouth of Woodcock Creek; thence up said creek to where the same intersects the western line of the Seventh Donation District; thence north along said line to the northwest

corner of said district; thence east along the north line of said district, ten miles to the western line of the township of Oil Creek; thence north along said line to the northern boundary of Crawford County; thence west along said boundary to French Creek; thence down said creek by the various courses thereof to the mouth of Woodcock Creek, the place of beginning. These limits included the greater part of present Woodcock, the northern part of Richmond, the northwest corner of Athens, the western part of Bloomfield, the south part of Cambridge, and all of Rockdale that lies east of French Creek. The township was re-formed almost as it now exists in 1829, the portion west of French Creek having been part of Venango Township previous to that date. It is one of the northern townships, bounded on the north by Erie County, on the east by Bloomfield Township and a corner of Athens, on the south by Richmond and on the west by Cambridge. It contains 20,953 acres, and in 1850 had a population of 1,086; in 1860, of 1,638; in 1870, of 1,664; in 1880, of 1,603. French Creek, by its southern and westward course separates the northwest portion from the main body of the township. Muddy Creek, a stream of considerable size, enters from the southeast and reaches French Creek a little west of the township center. Kelly's Run is its principal tributary, draining the northeast portion of the township, and entering Muddy Creek near its mouth. The valleys of the streams are low and level, and their soil a rich alluvium. Low hills rise beyond and lead to a rolling surface, the soil of which is a mixture of clay and sand. Along Muddy Creek in early times, a marsh expanded to the distance of almost a mile. Most of this has yielded to systematic drainage, and is now excellent farming land. Hemlock, black ash, beech and maple grew in the low-lands, and on higher ground the chief varieties of timber were pine and oak with a little chestnut and other growths.

A few individual tracts were entered in this township; a considerable portion consists of Holland Land tracts, but the greater part belongs to the Eighth Donation District. The first improvement was made by the Holland Company, through its agent Maj. Roger Alden. He erected a saw-mill on Kelly's Run, near the east line of Tract 124, probably as early as 1799 or 1800. It was a little flutter-wheel mill, having no gearing, and was driven by an undershot wheel. George Fetterman, then Anthony Matson operated it. The mill was used for many years, and its ruins may yet be seen.

The Holland Land Company secured tenants for its tracts in this township at an early date as shown by the following contracts for settlement, dated usually but a few days prior to actual occupancy. Tract 104, Anthony Matson, 131 acres, February 12, 1802; Tract 105, George Fetterman, 137 acres, December 21, 1798, deed executed April 3, 1806; Tract 106, Calvin Frisbee, 143 acres, November 12, 1798, deed executed June 12, 1810; Tract 107, Samuel Blair, 150 acres, November 14, 1798, annulled in 1802; Andrew Lytle same tract, 200 acres, August 11, 1803, deed executed to William Dundass, assignee; Tract 115, George Fetterman, 150 acres, December 20, 1798, claim relinquished; Tract 116, Hugh McCullough, 150 acres, November 6, 1797; Tract 117, Patrick McCullough, 150 acres, November 14, 1797, deed delivered March 12, 1807; Tract 118, Patrick McCullough, 150 acres, November 14, 1797, deed delivered; Tracts 119, 120 and 121, first sale in 1815; Tract 122, George Pack, 150 acres, March 2, 1802, deed executed to Joseph Hackney, assignee, December 22, 1807; Tract 123, sold to Archibald Davidson, in 1805; ejectment pending in Circuit Court of the United States; Tract 124, deed executed to Roger Alden for 314 acres, February 3, 1800; Tract 135, Peter Young, 100 acres, February 4, 1802, deed executed April 8, 1807; Tract 143, Godfrey and Joseph Aberitt, 100 acres, September 10, 1796.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hotchkiss.

George Fetterman commenced his settlement in the northern part of the township, but soon after was engaged by Maj. Alden to run the company's saw-mill. He removed to the mill and remained until about 1808, when he embarked with his family and household goods in a flat-boat, and descended French Creek to parts unknown. Anthony Matson likewise had commenced an improvement in the northern part of the township, and also owned land in Erie County. He came to this region unmarried, and dwelt for a while with Fetterman at the mill. He married Patty Heatley and remained in charge of the mill for many years after the departure of his predecessor. About 1824 he removed to the south part of Erie County, where he died. Calvin Frisbee was a resident of Erie County near the line, as was also Andrew Lytle. Samuel Blair commenced a settlement on Tract 107, but as the records show, he was obliged to vacate and remove elsewhere; William Dundass was here for a short time only. Hugh and Patrick McCullough, natives of Ireland, were among the earliest settlers. They remained on their respective tracts until death. George Pack cleared a few acres on Tract 122, and then left the country. His assignee, Joseph Hackney, was a resident of Meadville. Archibald Davidson and the Aberitts are not remembered. Peter Young settled on Tract 135, and afterward purchased and removed to a farm on Tract 1,599, in the western part of the township near French Creek, where he remained till death. He came from the eastern part of the State, and in addition to farming, manufactured the shoes for his pioneer neighbors.

Isaac Kelly, originally from New Jersey, emigrated from Northumberland County, this State, and settled in Bloomfield Township. Soon after and in the spring of 1800, having heard of a vacant, unsurveyed body of land at the mouth of Muddy Creek, he removed to it, and a little later secured a patent for it. He was a wheelwright by trade, and manufactured chairs, spinning wheels, etc., for a time, but cleared his land and turned his attention to farming as rapidly as possible. About 1817 he erected the first grist-mill in the township, and operated it until his death in 1832. He was a Baptist, and died leaving eight children.

Moses Heatley was one of the earliest settlers. Robert Still, who married one of his daughters, was another. Mr. Still was a "shingle weaver" or maker, splitting the shingles, then shaving them to a proper smoothness. He remained in the township till death. George Teeters made an early improvement on Tract 123, but soon moved away. Isaac Willis, a weaver, came about 1802 from the Susquehanna. His son is now a resident of the township.

William Carnahan about 1799 came from Northumberland County and settled on a tract on Muddy Creek, within the Eighth Donation District, but which was held as waste land, and not numbered on account of its marshiness. He obtained it at a nominal price, and made a small improvement on a small portion which was dry and fertile. A few years later he sold it to John Hayes and removed to Allegheny County. Mr. Hayes was a native of Delaware. Robert Hutchinson about 1812 removed from Woodcock Township to this—Hayes—tract and remained there till his death, many years later. Henry Minium, George Peiffer, Peter Stone and Jacob and William Kepler settled early in the east part of the township on Holland land, but in view of impending litigation they removed to Woodcock Township and elsewhere.

The township settled slowly like other portions of the county where Donation land prevails. John Hammond about 1812 settled at Brown's Hill in the southeast part, and about the same time Arthur Jervis arrived from Fayette County. Nathan Mitchell, a native of Massachusetts, in 1802 came to the

township from Canada, where he had resided four years, and settled on the east bank of French Creek near the north line of the township.

One of the earliest settlements west of French Creek was made by George Miller. He was of German descent, and prior to 1802 emigrated from the Susquehanna Valley, and settled in the northern part of Richmond Township. About 1808 he removed to an undrawn 500 acre Donation Tract, No. 158, west of French Creek, and on which Miller's Station is located. He built his cabin on a small, rich prairie of about fifteen acres on the spot now occupied by the residence of Daniel Kelly, a short distance east of the station. Mr. Miller's mind was of a deep religious cast, and though uneducated he resolved to preach the Gospel. He became the first pastor of a Baptist congregatian, organized in Rockdale Township in 1812, and which was subsequently removed to Cambridge. He labored as a minister for many years, and in addition engaged in farming. He was a prominent citizen, and died on his place leaving six sons and four daughters.

Alexander Anderson, John Langley and John Daniel, all Baptists, were other early settlers west of French Creek. Mr. Anderson emigrated from Scotland, and settled in Cussewago Township, but soon after removed to the George Miller tract, this township, and died of "camp fever" about 1813. John Langley came from Washington County to Cussewago Township, and about 1810 removed and settled about a half mile north of Miller's Station. A few years later he removed to Erie County. He was a Baptist. John Daniel about 1812 settled a half mile west of Miller's Station, and remained there until death. He was a farmer and a Baptist. The northwest portion of the township had few if any other settlers for a number of years afterward.

The Holland Mill remained for years the only one. About 1815 Jonas Clark erected a saw-mill at the mouth of Muddy Creek, Mr. Clark purchasing a farm of sixty acres from Isaac Kelly. The saw-mill, rebuilt, is still in operation, now owned by David O. Wing. Pine was the principal timber, cut and sawed, and much was rafted or shipped in flat-boats down the creek to Meadville and other places. Isaac Kelly, in 1817, erected the first and only grist mill. At first he had but one pair of "rock" mill stones, but the mill was afterward enlarged and improved. It is still in operation and known as the Woodside's Mill. It is located on Kelly's Run about a mile from its mouth. Mr. Kelly was proprietor until his death in 1832. His son, Isaac Kelly, Jr., was then in charge until he sold it to the present owner, James Woodside, who has added steam-power and a saw-mill. The building is a large three-story structure, and an extensive business is here transacted. George Hoig now owns and operates a shingle, lath and saw-mill on Muddy Creek. It was erected about 1825.

Probably the first regular school in the township was taught by Miss Emeline Bidwell about 1816, in a little log-cabin which stood in the woods remote from a road, near Kelly's Run on the Kelly farm. It was a two months' term, and was attended by the Kelly children, five or six in number, A. Matson's four children, the family of Elder Miller from across French Creek and Robert Hutchinson's children. John Langley, a well educated pioneer, and John Kelly afterward taught in this building. It was not unusual for children in those times to attend schools kept four miles from their homes. Several early schools in Erie County were supported by a number of the pioneer youth of Rockdale. As early as 1805, Mrs. George Fetterman at her cabin gave a little instruction to the children in that vicinity, but it scarcely deserved the name of school nor had it the pretentions of one.

The first road passed north and south through the township a little east of

the center, and past the old Holland Mill. It had been laid and cut out by the French from Franklin to Erie and when the first settlers arrived was easily traceable, though overgrown by underbrush. The pioneers improved and used it largely. The next road of any magnitude was the turnpike extending from Meadville to Erie. It was constructed in 1818 and passed through the northwest corner of Rockdale.

Miller's Station lies west of French Creek on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad, and consists of a store, a hotel, a blacksmith shop, a church and several spacious residences. The first, and during its existence the only church edifice in the township, was a frame structure about 30x40 built about 1820 by the Baptist congregation, which was organized October 31, 1812, with the following constituent members: George Miller, Alexander Anderson, Isaac Kelly, John Langley, James Anderson, Sally Clark, Barbara Miller, Hannah Kelly, Elizabeth Daniel, Christina Miller and Lydia Anderson. Services had been held in cabins prior to the erection of the church. Elder George Miller was the pastor for many years, and was succeeded by Elder Amos Williams. The membership of the church in time centered farther south, and for convenience a meeting-house was built at Cambridge. The primitive building at Miller's Station was occupied about thirty years, after which services have been conducted solely at Cambridge.

The old church stood in the present cemetery lot at Miller's Station, which was at first a Congregational burial place. It remained a free public graveyard until 1880, when the Rockdale Cemetery Association was formed with David O. Wing, James Woodside, J. P. Kelly, D. O. Kelly and H. H. Howard as Directors. The grounds are tastefully adorned and contain nearly one and a half acres. During the summer of 1880 the handsome frame sanctuary which stands just west of the cemetery was built on land donated by Daniel Kelly. It is 32x52 in size, its cost of construction was $2,000 and it was dedicated as a union or undenominational church by ministers of several sects in February, 1881. The Trustees are James Woodside, H. W. Canfield, E. J. Throop and F. S. Strong. A few adherents of the Free Will Baptist faith were active in its erection, and the use of the building for this denomination was stipulated for one-half the time. No congregation was organized, but services were held by the Baptists for nearly a year when they ceased. At present Rev. I. D. Darling, the Methodist Episcopal minister, of Cambridge, preaches here on each alternate Sunday.

On the farm of Joseph McFadden, on the eastern side of French Creek, is a frame meeting-house, erected in 1881, at a cost of about $900. It is the property of the Zion Church, a branch of the United Brethren. The class was organized a short time prior to the building of the church, and included Joseph McFadden, William Mitchell and Levi Perkins in its original membership. Rev. David Smock was the first pastor; Rev. Andrew Ward followed, and preached two years; Rev. Smock is again in charge. The society numbers fifteen. A small class of this same denomination has met for several years in the schoolhouse, one mile west of Miller's Station.

Brown Hill Baptist Church, in the southeast part of Tract 1527, was built in 1874. The congregation had been organized shortly before by Elder Charles Drake. Among the early members were: David Morton, Sr., David Morton, Jr., George Clark and wife, James Leonard and wife, Mrs. Ira Dean, Mrs. Simon Dean, Mrs. Lucy Mickle and Henry Mickle and wife. Elders Cyrus Shreve and Hovey have since ministered to this flock. The former closed his second pastorate in the autumn of 1883. Through deaths and removals the membership is greatly reduced, and regular services are not now held. Free

Will Baptist services were held for many years in Mackey Hill Schoolhouse, in the northern portion of the township.

Brown Hill United Brethren Church was organized by Rev. H. Bedow, in 1860, with three members: Mrs. Rebecca Wheeler, and William Allen and wife. Among the members who soon after united with the class were: Mrs. Ira Dean, Abram Amy and wife, Samuel Smith and wife, Emery Mickle and wife and J. Jesse Sabin. Services were held in the schoolhouse until 1875, when they were transferred to the Brown Hill Baptist Church, a moiety of which has since, by purchase, become the property of the United Brethren Class. The society now numbers thirty-two, and is connected with French Creek Circuit.

A class of the same persuasion was organized in 1876 or 1877 by Rev. Lansing McIntire, and has since held meetings in the Kellogg Schoolhouse, in the southeast portion of the township. It is quite small, numbering but twelve or fifteen, and is attached to French Creek Circuit.

Jervis Methodist Episcopal Society was organized in December, 1881, by Rev. J. F. Perry, with about twenty-four members, among whom were: H. D. Bertram, Charles Bunce, Arthur Jervis, J. H. Jervis, Amasa F. Turner, William Fuller and Matthew Landers, and most of whom had previously been connected with neighboring classes. On a lot donated by Arthur Jervis, a neat, commodious frame church, 30x48, had been erected during the summer of 1881, at a cost of $1,786, on Tract 1593, in the southern part of Rockdale, and meetings were held in this building as soon as the class was formed. The society numbers twenty-six, and is a part of Rockville Circuit.

Besides Miller's Station the only postoffice is Brown Hill. It was established about 1867, and has successively had for Postmasters: Hiram Drake, F. R. Blanchard and James Leslie. Brown Hill is a hamlet in the eastern part, and contains a store, a school, a blacksmith shop and several dwellings. Farm houses are numerous in the vicinity.

CHAPTER XIX.

ROME TOWNSHIP.

ROME TOWNSHIP—ORGANIZATION—BOUNDARIES—AREA—POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—LAND TITLES—PIONEERS—EARLY TAX-PAYERS—MILLS—EARLY SCHOOL TEACHERS—CHURCHES.

BOROUGH OF CENTERVILLE—INCORPORATION—ELECTION—OFFICERS—EARLY SETTLEMENT—PRESENT BUSINESS INTERESTS—SCHOOL—CEMETERY—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES.

THIS township was one of those formed in 1829, its territory having previously been parts of Bloomfield and Oil Creek. By act of the Assembly approved April 23, 1829, the house of Rosanna McGee was made the first place of holding elections. Rome lies in the eastern part of the county, and is bounded on the north by Sparta Township, on the west by Athens and Steuben, on the south by Steuben and Oil Creek, and on the east by Warren County. It is one of the largest in the county, having an area of 24,565 acres. Its population in 1850 was 940; in 1860, 1,051; in 1870, 1,274, and in 1880, 1,324.

The surface is generally rolling, with little low and marshy land. It is drained by Oil Creek and its tributaries, the most prominent of which are McLaughlin Creek and Thompson's Run. The main stream is in the western part. The two mentioned tributaries are in the central and eastern parts, and all have a general southerly direction. The soil is sandy along the streams, and clay on the uplands. Sandstone outcrops in places. A large quantity of pine was found in the northern and western parts, while occasional groves were interspersed among the forest growths throughout the township. Oak and chestnut prevailed in the central and eastern portions, and cherry, beech and maple in the valleys, hemlock, grew in every part. Considerable bodies of timber yet remain in the eastern portion of Rome where settlements are sparse. The three northern tiers of tracts are part of the Eighth Donation District.

The Holland Land Company owned most of the land in the southern part. The first settlement was made under its auspices by the following settlers, in accordance with contracts made at the following dates, and in consideration of the annexed gratuity of land: Tracts 1 and 2, Daniel McBride, October 21, 1799, 100 acres gratuity in each; Tracts 3 and 4, unsold till 1815; Tract 27, James Lafferty, October 21, 1799, 100 acres gratuity, assigned to James McLaughlin; Tract 28, unsold till 1815; Tract 29, James Lafferty, October 21, 1799, 100 acres gratuity, deed executed; Tract 30, Patrick McGee, October 21, 1799, 100 acres gratuity, deed executed; Tract 31, unsold till 1815; Tract 32, Patrick Brannon, October 21, 1799, 100 acres gratuity, deed executed; Tract 33, Patrick McGee, October 21, 1799, 100 acres gratuity; Tracts 34 and 35, unsold till 1815; Tract 36, James McLaughlin, November 3, 1804, 100 acres gratuity; Tracts 40 to 51, unsold till 1815; Tract 91, Andrew Kerr, 100 acres gratuity July 10, 1805; Tracts 92 to 95, unsold. From the above it is seen that upon only eight of the thirty tracts were settlements made prior to 1815, at which date many of the unsold tracts were disposed of to land speculators and non-residents of the township.

Patrick Brannon, Patrick McGee, James Lafferty, Daniel McBride and James McLaughlin, a colony of Irish immigrants, were the primitive pioneers. In 1795 they emigrated from County Donegal, Ireland, and for three years dwelt on the banks of the Susquehanna in Northumberland County. Thence in 1798 they proceeded to Pittsburgh. In the autumn of the following year they visited the Oil Creek Region, selected Holland land tracts for their future homes, made contracts for their settlement with the agent of the company, built little cabins for temporary shelter, cleared off small patches of ground, and then returned to their families at Pittsburgh, where they spent the winter, and in April, 1800, set out with their families and scanty household goods for their future wilderness home. Patrick Brannon settled in the western part of Tract 32, about two miles east of Centreville, where he remained until death, and where his numerous descendants yet abide. He was a man of considerable education and intelligence, having been educated for the priesthood, a vocation which he did not embrace. Patrick McGee made a home in the southern part of Tract 30, about two miles southeast from Centreville. He remained a life-long citizen here, and has left a numerous posterity. James Lafferty built his cabin in the northern part of Tract 29, south of and near that of Patrick McGee. He faithfully cleared away the forest and tilled the soil until his decease, and his grandchildren now possess the fruits of his industry. James McLaughlin settled in the northwest part of Tract 36, about three miles southeast from Centreville. He resided here to extreme old age, and the old home farm is still cultivated in the McLaughlin name. Daniel McBride settled on the site of Centreville. This entire colony consisted of

Catholics, and their descendants still worship in the faith of their forefathers.

Roger Coil, or Coyle, as the name was originally spelled, was a native of Ireland. In 1800 he came from Pittsburgh to the newly commenced Irish settlement in Rome, made a clearing, and built a cabin in the southwest part of Tract 28, destined to be his future and permanent home, boarding while making his first improvement at the cabin of James McLaughlin, which was near by. In 1801 Mr. Coil brought his family to the prepared little home, and devoted his life-long energies to clearing and cultivating an extensive farm. He became involved in a law suit with the Holland Land Company, but succeeded in maintaining his title to the farm. He was a Catholic, and left a large family. His son, John Coil, became a Methodist divine. Hugh accepted the tenets of the Baptist faith, while Patrick adhered to the faith of his ancestors. The other children were equally diverse in religious belief.

Daniel Carlin, an Irishman and a Catholic, came about 1801 and settled in what is now the northwest corner of Oil Creek Township. Several years later he removed to the gore, immediately south of Centreville Borough. While making sugar in the woods one cold spring day, in his old age, he lost his way in the wilderness and perished in the snow. He had four daughters and two sons, John and Daniel. Years came and went, but the little settlement in Rome received few, if any, accessions. Several settlers arrived, remained a short time and departed. Previous to 1810 Robert Coun was here. He was a cripple, and did not remain many years.

Not before 1820 did the little cabin clearings begin to dot the length and breadth of the forestry of Rome, but in 1830, when the first tax duplicate was made for the township, it included about seventy-five names, including the early settlers already named and many of their descendants. The remaining resident tax-payers of Rome in 1830 were the following: Moses Blodgett; Roswell Buell, who had settled on Tract 29, two miles southeast from Centreville and died in Steuben Township; Charles Barber, who until death occupied a farm on Tract 30, a mile east of Centreville; Russel and Cyrus Bidwell; Daniel Bement, a Yankee and the first tanner in the township, working at his trade on Tract 3, south of Centreville, through life; Asa Babcock; John Blakeslee, on Tract 1666; B. Bassett, owning Tracts 1661 and 1648; Charles Bachus, in Centreville; Rev. Amos Chase, the well-known pioneer Presbyterian divine who dwelt just south of the borough; Charles Chase, his son; Cornelius Cummings, a carpenter of Centreville; Nathan Cook, on Tract 1731; John Colton, a Yankee and life-long resident, on Tract 36; William Davenport, also from New England, on Tracts 1653, 1654; Peter Fink and his sons John and Martin, three miles southeast from Centreville; Benjamin Gilson, on Tract 29; David, Aaron and Henry Gardner in the southern part; Jabez Galpin; Nancy Hall; the heirs of Andrew Hagany; Horace Humphrey, of Centreville; Samuel Kerr; Peter McKeiffer, an Irish Catholic, who settled and remained through life in the southwest part; James R. Maginnis; Alfred McCarley; Joseph Norris; John Odell, still living in the township; William T. McCray, on Tract 1666; Joseph Patten, Gad and Charles Peck and Samuel Rice, of Centreville; Daniel Rogers, an Irish Catholic and one of the earliest settlers; Stephen Sloan; Patrick Shirley; David Tryon, who operated a fulling and carding-mill south of Centerville, on Oil Creek; Thomas Tubb, a life-long resident of Tract 1648; David Winton, who operated a saw-mill just south of the borough; Samuel and Bradley Winton, of Centreville; Myron Whipple, a shoe-maker of the village; Alexander Wood; Converse White, who settled south of Centreville and soon after moved away; Barnabas Ward, of Centreville, and Adam and Martin Zely.

In the central part of the township is an English settlement, commenced in 1833 by the arrival of Benjamin Harrison, Sr., who was born in Northumberland County, England, in 1797, emigrated to Patterson, N. J., in 1827, and thence removed to this township with his mother. The eastern part of the township was then a vast wilderness and many years elapsed before it was settled.

The first saw and grist-mill was built about 1815 on Oil Creek immediately south of Centreville Borough by David Winton, the son of Nathan Winton, of Centreville. James and David Tryon, from Litchfield, Conn., about the same time and in the same locality, erected a carding and fulling-mill, which they operated for about fifteen years, and then removed a little farther down the stream to what is now Steuben Township. Patrick Coyle, about 1825, started a carding-mill on the East Branch of Oil Creek, a short distance northeast from Centreville, and operated it for twenty years or more. Saw-mills sprang up in all parts of the township, and their busy hum may still be heard in portions where the native forest yet remains.

Patrick Brannon was the earliest pedagogue, and taught in a cabin which stood on the Magee farm. Reading, writing and a little ciphering were all the acquirements a teacher was then expected to impart to his pupils, and Mr. Brannon was amply qualified for his position, having received in Ireland a liberal education. He was a pious Catholic and concerned himself in the strict decorum of his pupils. With backwoods license the larger pupils would occasionally indulge in profanity in his presence, and in the vehemence of his reproof of such offensive language the excited master would often chastise severely. Dennis Carrol, an Irishman, and a veteran of the Revolution, was also an early teacher, following this vocation in his old age.

The Church of the Immaculate Conception at Mageetown, two miles east of Centreville, was organized with twenty-five members in 1822. The first members were the families of the earliest pioneers whose names have been mentioned. The church was supplied by priests from Pittsburgh and elsewhere for many years. Under the pastorate of Father Peter Sheridan, the first resident priest, the present place of worship was erected in 1848 at a cost of $1,200 on a lot donated by Francis Magee. Revs. J. P. Maurel, Donohue and William Pugh were successively resident pastors, then Father Callaghan, became the pastor. He was succeeded by Father P. J. McGovern, the present pastor, and assistant priest at Titusville. The membership now embraces about twenty-five families.

In the southern part of the township is Hemlock Baptist Church, a structure erected largely through the contribution of Isaiah Rowe. The society which worshiped here has disbanded.

On Tract 1666, in the northwest part of Rome, is a frame United Brethren Church, where a small but prosperous society of that denomination now conduct services. Frederick Lyons, Lyman Phillips and Manning Childs were leading early members.

Near the south line of Tract 44, in the central portion of the township, is a modest frame structure, 22x44 feet, the church of a congregation of Covenanters. The society was founded by the members of the English settlement in this region, and organized February 22, 1860. The leading early members were: Jacob Boggs, Henry Wright, John Edmund, the Harrisons, Stewarts and others, and the first meetings were held in barns and dwelling-houses. The pastors have been: Revs. Blackwood, Hutchinson, Mulligan, Reed and Dodds.

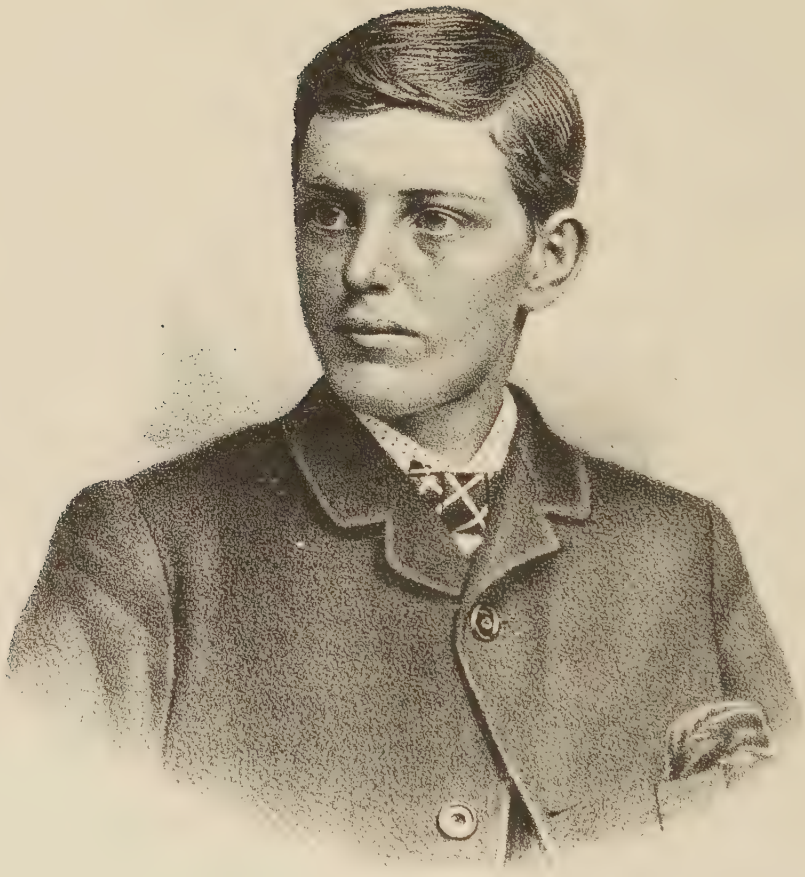
BOROUGH OF CENTREVILLE.

A petition praying for the incorporation of Centreville was filed in the Court of Quarter Sessions February 16, 1865, and the same day presented for consideration to the grand jury, which in its report deemed it expedient to grant the petition. Accordingly the court confirmed its decision April 14, 1865, and appointed the following May 5th the date of the first election. G. W. Rockwell was selected to give proper notice of the forthcoming election, of which George Bennett was appointed Judge, and James M. Lewis and Lorin Wood Inspectors. The election resulted in the selection of George W. Rockwell, Burgess, and A. P. Waid, James Clark, L. B. Main, O. F. Himes and T. L. Noble, Council. The Burgesses since elected have been: G. W. Rockwell, 1866; Wash Winton, 1867; C. J. Saunders, 1868; Bruce Southworth, 1869–71; Samuel Post, 1872; J. H. Wooster, 1873; Henry Fields, 1874; John Linsey, 1875; John A. Dowler, 1876; George M. Eberman, 1877; J. M. Lewis, 1878; J. G. Bly, 1879; C. B. Post, 1880; B. Southworth, 1881; C. B. Post, 1882; B. Southworth, 1883; Wash Winton, 1884.

Centreville is the site of one of the oldest settlements in the eastern part of the county. Daniel McBride first disturbed the wilds of nature here by clearing a small patch in 1801 near the northeast corner of First and Erie Streets. The same season he constructed a little tent, by placing poles against the trunk of a fallen tree and covering them with brush. In 1802 he constructed a round-log cabin, and for many years thereafter toiled zealously in clearing up a large farm. Building an addition to his cabin, he commenced entertaining strangers prior to the war of 1812. Years afterward he sold the farm to Charles Peck, who for a time continued the duties of a public host.

Nathan Winton, the second permanent settler, moved with his family from Connecticut, and settled on land constituting a gore, and situated in the western part of the borough. He purchased the right of settlement from Mr. Buell, who had located here, made a slight clearing, and commenced the construction of a dam. Mr. Winton and his son Samuel completed the dam, and prior to 1810 erected a saw-mill close to the junction of the East and West Branches of Oil Creek. They operated the mill for many years, then sold it to Lorin Wood, who subsequently erected a grist-mill at the same place. Mr. Merrick opened the first store as early as 1820. It stood on the east side of Erie Street, north of First, and near the present Centreville Hotel. David Winton, the son of Nathan, about 1813 built the first grist-mill in this locality. It was situated on the banks of Oil Creek, immediately south of the borough, and was operated by Mr. Winton and subsequently by his heirs until about 1855, when it was destroyed by fire. It was an important feature of pioneer life and patronized for many miles around. Joseph Patton, an early Justice of the Peace, emigrated from Connecticut and settled here prior to 1820. Charles Saunders was an early shoe-maker, and Daniel Bement the first tanner. Lorin Wood, a merchant, originally from Massachusetts, came in 1831; his brother, Phineas Wood, also arrived the same year. The village has since grown steadily. It contained a population of 322 in 1870 and of 307 in 1880. Its mercantile business consists of three stores of general merchandise, one drug, one hardware, one furniture and one millinery store, and a meat market. It has a grist-mill, two saw-mills, a stave and handle factory, two blacksmith-shops, a harness-shop, a shoe-shop, a tin-shop, a wagon-shop, two hotels, three physicians and three churches. Its railroad facilities are excellent, the Union & Titusville Road and the Buffalo, New York &. Philadelphia passing through the village.

Centreville is a shipping point of considerable note, and annually exports



Fred F. Waid

large quantities of hay, wood, lumber and produce. The school building is a substantial frame structure, erected in 1872 at a cost of $3,500. The cemetery occupies a knoll of about three acres on the banks of Oil Creek, is beautifully laid out and embellished, and is owned by the borough.

The first religious society was the Presbyterian Congregation, organized about 1815 by Rev. Amos Chase, who served it as supply until 1827, then as pastor until 1830. Mr. Chase was the pioneer Presbyterian minister of eastern Crawford, and was held in universal esteem. He continued a resident of Centreville until his death, December 23, 1849, in his ninetieth year. Rev. George W. Hampson was the second pastor, and remained in charge many years. Revs. Chapin and Johns, of Spartansburg, followed, and soon after the church became too weak numerically to maintain existence. This congregation erected the first church edifice in the village. It was a substantial frame, about 30x40, with an old-fashioned elevated pulpit at one end, and did excellent service for many years. It stood near the present Congregational Church. Elder Davenport, Lorin Wood and Charles Peck were among the prominent members of the congregation.

The Congregational Church was organized at Centreville September 5, 1841, at the Presbyterian Church, by Rev. Lucius Parker, the first pastor. Its eighteen original members were Joel Phillips and wife, and daughter Maria, Jeremiah Tryon and wife, Silas Taylor and wife, Alexander Wood and wife, Pierson Sexton and wife, Oliver Scott and wife, Charles M. Wood, Phineas Wood, Caroline Cummings, Elizabeth Sexton, Julia Bement, Joseph Patten and Benjamin Clark and wife. Meetings were held in the Presbyterian Church. Revs. L. L. Radcliff and Barnes succeeded Rev. Parker and in time the congregation ceased services. It was reorganized April 24, 1859, with thirty-eight members, including Jeremiah Tryon, James Clark, C. M. Wood, O. B. Scott, Leonard Post, Charles D. Hill, George P. Bement, Charles Saunders, E. C. Bloomfield, Julius A. Rodier, Henry Noble, Norman Scott, W. H. H. Boyle, Fred Clark, L. J. Griffith, Joel Bennett and twenty-two female members. Rev. U. T. Chamberlain, through whose exertions it was reorganized, remained pastor until January, 1865. His successors have been Revs. T. H. Delamater, W. D. Henry, Jones, J. B. Davidson, W. S. McKellar, J. D. Sammons and R. Morgan. Meetings were held in the old Presbyterian sanctuary until 1869, when the present frame house of worship, 35x60, was constructed at a cost of $4,000. The membership is eighty-three.

An early Methodist society flourished at Centreville prior to 1831, meeting at the schoolhouse, at the cabin of Samuel Winton and elsewhere. Among its members were Samuel Winton and wife, James Coyle, William Haskins and Roswell Buell. The class possessed only a few members and did not continue for many years Centreville Circuit was organized in 1831 and has had the following ministers: T. Thompson and J. Summerville, 1831; J. Scott and J. Robinson, 1832; D. Richey and S. W. Ingraham, 1833; W. Carroll, 1834; J. W. Davis and A. Keller, 1835; R. Peck and W. B. Lloyd, 1836; C. C. Best and H. S. Hitchcock, 1837; J. A. Hallock and I. Scofield, 1838. The class probably did not long survive this latter date. The present class was organized in 1863. Johnson Merrill and wife, Samuel Post, John Buell and Samuel Winton and wife were early members of it. Meetings were held in the Presbyterian and afterward in the Congregational Church until the present commodious frame edifice, about 36x60, was reared in 1875 at a cost of $2,500. The class was a part of Riceville Circuit until 1873, when Centreville Circuit was formed. It embraces but two appointments, Riceville and Centreville, and has had the following pastors: J. W. Wilson, 1873–74; M.

V. Stone, 1875–76; J. L. Mechlin, 1877; D. R. Palmer, 1878–79; G. W. Clark, 1881; L. Beers, 1882; Frederick Fair, 1883. The membership of the society is about seventy-five.

The First Baptist Church of Centreville was constituted in April, 1862, by Elder Cyrus Shreve, with the following seven members: Franklin Weatherbee and wife Melissa, D. B. Weatherbee and Penila his wife, Freemen Bradford and Elizabeth, his wife, and Penila Chapman. Elder Freeman Bradford was the first pastor, remaining in charge five years. His successors have been C. J. Jack, Cyrus Shreve, F. Bradford, D. C. Dennison, and Cyrus Shreve again, who is now pastor. Meetings were held at Franklin Weatherbee's house and occasionally at the Congregational Church until 1875, when a Baptist Church was erected at a cost of $1,575. It is 28x35 in size and is neatly furnished. The present membership is forty.

Arethusian Lodge, No. 323, Good Templars, was chartered May 11, 1867, with sixteen members: T. L. Noble, C. F. Chamberlain, I. A. Wright, Gaylord Matteson, L. Matteson, W. P. Klingensmith, J. M. Lewis, Bruce Southworth, Gates Sexton, Mrs. E. S. Southworth, Mrs. Viola Tubbs, Mrs. Sarah Fields, Mrs. E. Klingensmith, Mrs. N. Birch, Miss S. S. Chamberlain and one other. The organization has ever since been prosperously maintained and now has thirty-five active members. Meetings are held every Saturday evening.

Centreville Union, No. 164, E. A. U., was organized October 6, 1880. Its first officers were J. M. Boyd, President; James Bramhill, Chancellor; Mrs. E. S. Southworth, Advocate; and F. L. Markham, Secretary. The membership is twenty-five and meetings are held the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

CHAPTER XX.

SADSBURY TOWNSHIP.

Sadsbury Township—Original Boundaries—Present Area—Population—Canal—Railroads—Conneaut Lake—Physical Features—Land Companies—Early Settlers—Distilleries—Early Teachers—Shermanville—Aldenia—Stony Point Postoffice.

Borough of Evansburg—Location—Incorporation—Hotels—Population Business—Religious Organizations—Societies—The Founder—Early Settlers and Business Pursuits.

SADSBURY was one of the eight townships erected in Crawford County by the Court of Quarter Sessions, July 9, 1800. Its boundaries were thus established: "Beginning at the southeast corner of a tract of land surveyed in the name of Michael Emmell; thence northwardly including a tract of land surveyed in the name of William Bell, to the northeast corner of a tract of land surveyed in the name of John James; thence westwardly to the northeast corner of a tract of land surveyed in the name of David Fleming; thence south to the place of beginning." This description, which is both insufficient and obscure, appears thus on record. The township originally included parts of what are now Vernon, Hayfield, Summerhill, Summit and Sadsbury. By a re-formation of township lines in 1829 Sadsbury was changed to about its present territory, together with the southern half of Summit. The territory of

Sadsbury, as now constituted, was, before 1829, apportioned among four townships: The northwest portion was part of Conneaut; the northeast, a portion of Sadsbury; the southeast, a part of Fallowfield; and the southwest a part of Shenango. The township now contains 12,770 acres. It is six tracts square, except that about two tracts in the southwest corner have been given to West Fallowfield. The population in 1850 was 982; in 1860, 1,136; in 1870, 894; and in 1880, 895. In 1850 and 1860 Evansburg was included in the census.

The Beaver and Erie Canal passed north and south through the western part, and the feeder crossed the township east and west. The New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad by a curve enters and leaves the township in the southern part, and the Meadville & Linesville Railroad crosses the township in a northwest and southeast direction.

Conneaut Lake, the largest body of water in Crawford County, lies almost wholly within Sadsbury. It is a beautiful sheet of water three miles in length and varies in width from a half to a mile. It varies in depth from a few feet to nearly 100 feet in a few deep holes. It abounds in fish, and is much frequented by sportsmen and pleasure seekers. Four little steamers, the Keystone, Nickle Plate, Luna and Queen, ply on its waters. After the canal was constructed the surface of the lake was raised about nine feet by building a dam across the outlet, and its area greatly increased. It covers at present about 1,200 acres.

The surface of the township is level or gently rolling. The soil is a clay, except in the valleys, and is well adapted for grain raising. Oak, chestnut, beech, maple and pine were the prevailing types of timber. Numerous small springs exist, and amply irrigate the soil. The largest stream is Conneaut Outlet.

Sadsbury was one of the earliest settled portions of Crawford County. It attracted the foremost pioneers, and most of its tracts were entered before the land companies were in the field. The Holland Land Company owned two tracts in the northeast corner, and the Pennsylvania Population Company four tracts in the northwest corner. The balance was located and settled by individuals.

The two Holland Land tracts located in the northeast corner of the township were sold in 1800 to S. B. and A. W. Foster, of Meadville. Of the four tracts of the Pennsylvania Population Company, 200 acres of Tract 755 were contracted for by Joseph Allen, October 23, 1797, and a deed granted him March 25, 1802; 200 acres of 756, under same date, by Daniel Williams, who settled under contract; 200 acres, Tract 761, by Samuel Williamson, under contract of October 23, 1797, settled; 200 acres, 762, Matthew Williamson, under contract of October 23, 1797, settled and deed delivered. The east half of Tract 767 is also in Sadsbury; it is marked a swamp in the records of 1812. All the above settled on their tracts and remained for years. Samuel Williamson operated a distillery; he came from the southern part of the State. Dennis Hughes, originally from Ireland, directly from New Jersey, came in 1802 and settled in the northwest part of the township.

Abner Evans, whose name is perpetuated in the village of Evansburg, was among the foremost pioneers. He was here probably in 1796. He built a mill on Conneaut Outlet which was the first in the township, but was not a complete success, the fall not being sufficient to afford great power. John Harper came in 1797 or earlier and settled just east of the lake. Other pioneers known to have come equally as early were Luke Stevens, William Shotwell and William Campbell. Mr. Stevens was an Englishman. He settled about a mile south of Evansburg and remained there till death. William Shotwell settled in or

near Evansburg and remained in the township through life. Mr. Campbell selected a home in the western part of the township and there operated a distillery.

Jacob Shontz came in October, 1800, and remained on his tract near Evansburg until his death many years after. He was a member of the Seceder Church, and his descendants still occupy the old homestead. About the same time, or a few years later, the following were residents of the township: Adam Stewart, who came from Ireland—he dwelt in Evansburg and was a Justice of the Peace in 1810; years afterward he removed to West Fallowfield, where he died; Negro Dick, a peaceable colored man, who roved from place to place a great deal, selling straw baskets and bee hives—he died in East Fallowfield; Charles Frew, who lived about three miles west of Evansburg—he was a plow-maker and subsequently removed to Pittsburgh. David Garner settled in the north part of the township just west of the lake, and engaged in farming for life. John Jones also settled in the north part of the township. Samuel Lewis, half brother to David Garner, and an excellent blacksmith, after sojourning here for many years, removed to Illinois. John Quigley, an Irishman, settled east of the lake and remained a life-long settler. Henry Royer, a German, remained on his farm near Evansburg, until his death. George Shellito, an Irishman, settled about three miles west of Evansburg, where his descendants still live. Richard Coulter, Joseph Marshall and John Williams were also early settlers. Daniel Miller, a German, came with his family prior to 1800, and settled on the tract patented in the name of his son Michael, and situated about a mile south of Evansburg.

An early distillery was built by Joseph T. Cummings on Conneaut Outlet, but his death occurred almost immediately afterward and the still was operated by Mr. Sutleff and others. David Steward operated another, about two and a half miles west of Evansburg.

The township is exclusively agricultural outside of Shermanville and Evansburg and contains no manufactories; neither are there any churches beyond these villages.

Among the early school teachers of the township may be mentioned William McMichael who was a Presbyterian minister, Mr. Higgins, James McEntire, his son Robert McEntire and Mr. Plum. Of these James McEntire was probably the first. He settled in the township west of the lake in 1800, and two years later removed to East Fallowfield. He was a widely known early pedagogue and held terms in this and adjoining townships almost every winter from 1802 till 1827, the winter of the "four-foot snow." In 1805 he taught a term at Daniel Miller's cabin, for which he received $10 per month. John Gelvin and several others who attended this school went the next year on Burr's expedition, and a number of his pupils served in the war of 1812.

James McEntire, Sr., died in the township in 1800. A rough, square coffin was prepared for his remains from planks brought from Power's sawmill, and he was buried near where the Soldiers' Monument at Evansburg now stands.

Shermanville is a small village located in the northwestern part of the township. It was laid out along the canal by Anson Sherman, and the plat acknowledged and recorded January 18, 1842. The plat is irregular in outline, and all lots except fractional ones are 60x160 feet in size. Main Street is fifty feet wide, and Oak, Elm, Vine and Canal, each forty. A Mr. Craven is said to have been the first settler. Anson Sherman, who died in 1873, aged seventy-nine years, and Peter Bakeley, were the leading early residents. During the palmy days of the canal, the village was a lumber shipping point of

considerable note. The Shermanville of to-day contains nineteen dwellings, a school, a blacksmith-shop, a store, a flourishing steam saw-mill, owned by Thayer & Ladner, and a Methodist Episcopal Church.

A small Methodist class existed here forty years ago, and included Henry Moyer and wife, John Conley and wife, and Mrs. Lasure. Meetings were held in the schoolhouse until about 1867, when the present frame church was built. The membership is about twenty, and the society is a part of Linesville Circuit.

Just north of Evansburg, Aldenia was laid out, in the spring of 1828, by Rev. Timothy Alden, on part of a 200-acre tract purchased by him from Henry Reier, in 1818. The original plat contained ninety-five lots, a hollow square and a public common, and was acknowledged October 17, 1828. Winthrop, Thomas and Bentley Streets extended north and south; Clinton, Hosack, North Lake, South Lake and Line Streets, east and west. Isaiah Alden, brother of the founder, settled on the site of the prospective village, but it did not prosper, and in a few years was forgotten.

Stony Point Postoffice is located near the south line of the township. A small collection of houses cluster around the station of Evansburg, on the line of the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad, which is located here.

BOROUGH OF EVANSBURG.

The little borough of Evansburg is beautifully situated at the outlet of Conneaut Lake, and is well and favorably known as a summer resort.* It was not until the construction of the Meadville & Linesville Railroad, however, that it became conveniently accessible to the outside world. Containing four large hotels and one or two restaurants, it has ample means for the accommodation of guests. A fifth hotel, a spacious brick structure, built in 1843 by Robert Andrews, is located a half mile east of the borough, on the Evansburg & Meadville Road. The village in 1870 had a population of 174, and in 1880 of 197, which has since slightly increased. It has two general stores, two groceries, two drug stores, a hardware store, a millinery store, and a meat market, a saw-mill, a grist-mill, cheese factory, tannery, wagon-shop, three blacksmith-shops, three shoe-shops and a livery stable, three physicians, a dentist, a school, three churches and four societies. The largest building is the storing house of the Conneaut Lake Ice Company, Limited. A building 80x100 was erected in 1881, and a second structure adjoining, 100x200 feet, in 1882. The schoolhouse is a one story frame, containing one apartment.

The oldest religious society in the village is the United Presbyterian Congregation, formerly known as Seceders. An old log meeting-house was erected at Evansburg prior to 1815, and services held therein until the construction of a frame church building a half mile east of the borough. This church contained an old-fashioned elevated pulpit, and was occupied until the erection of the present frame edifice in 1864, at the southeast corner of High and Fourth Streets. Rev. McLean, of Shenango Township, preached until September 20, 1827, when Matthew Snodgrass was installed pastor in a beautiful grove on the shore of the lake. Since then his successors have been: Revs. Joseph Waddle, Samuel Black and Joseph McNabb. The membership is about sixty.

Evansburg Presbyterian Church was formerly known as Conneaut, or the Outlet of Conneaut. From 1811 to 1817 it constituted a part of the charge of Rev. Robert Johnston, in connection with Meadville and Little Sugar Creek.

* A petition for the incorporation of Evansburg, signed by twenty-five citizens, was presented to the grand jury, who in April, 1858, recommended that it be granted. In accordance the court confirmed their report, August 9, 1858.

It was dependent on supplies from that date to April 14, 1841, when Rev. Edward S. Blake was ordained and installed pastor in connection with Gravel Run, remaining one year. Rev. J. W. Dickey became pastor October 4, 1843, and was released in 1847. Rev. James Coulter was pastor from September, 1852, to 1857 or 1858. The next pastor was Rev. George Scott, installed June 27, 1860, released June 10, 1862. The church building, a large square frame structure, on the southwest corner of Fifth and Water Streets, was erected in 1831. The membership is now about fifty. Recent pastors have been: Revs. J. W. McVitty, McKinney, Anderson and Boyd.

A small Methodist Episcopal class existed at Evansburg in very early times. Meetings were held in the old log Seceder Church and in the schoolhouse until 1840, when the present frame meeting-house was erected on Line Street, opposite Third. Michael Miller, James Birch and John Vickers were leading early members. Evansburg Circuit was formed in 1842 with J. Prosser pastor that year, and R. Parker in 1843. The circuit was then changed, but Evansburg Circuit was re-formed in 1851, and its pastors have since been: I. C. T. McClelland and T. Benn, 1851; I. C. T. McClelland, 1852; J. Abbott and A. L. Miller, 1853; J. Abbott and F. Vernon, 1854; I. Lane, 1855–56; J. B. Orwig, 1857–58; J. Wigglesworth, 1859–60; I. Scofield, 1860–61; S. Hollen, 1862–63; J. W. Hill, 1864; J. Shields, 1865; J. Crum, 1866; J. F. Perry, 1867–68; G. M. Eberman, 1869; J. Eckels, 1870–71; F. Fair, 1872–73; W. H. Hoover, 1874; J. A. Hume, 1875; L. Wick, 1876–77; D. W. Wampler, 1878–79; L. G. Merril, 1880–81; A. J. Lindsey, 1882–83. The membership is about seventy.

Conneaut Lake Lodge, No. 105, A. O. U. W., was organized March 7, 1877, with Mathew Work, P. M. W.; W. F. McLean, M. W.; A. L. Bossard, G. F.; H. C. Jones, O.; C. E. White, Recorder; A. W. Birch, Financier; R. A. Stratton, Receiver; J. C. Jackson, G.; Joshua Brown, I. W.; Z. T. Raydure, O. W. The membership is thirty-four, and meetings are held every Wednesday evening.

Conneaut Lake Union, No. 352, E. A. U., was instituted August 12, 1881, with thirty-seven members. Its first officers were: E. Graham, Chancellor; Mrs. M. M. McNamara, Advocate; John D. Heard, President; Mrs. S. A Stratton, Vice-President. Meetings are held on the first and third Fridays of each month. The membership has slightly increased.

Conneaut Lake Lodge, No. 980, I. O. O. F., was instituted November 25, 1881, with twenty-two members. Its first elective officers were: John S. Keen, N. G.; J. F. Stewart, V. G.; Charles McGill, Permanent Secretary; Henry Young, Assistant Secretary; F. Knierman, Treasurer. The membership is now eighty-eight, and meetings are held every Saturday evening.

Alpharetta Lodge, No. 135, D. of R., was organized August 14, 1883, with sixty-four members and with the following officers: Mrs. Mira Keen, N. G.; Mrs. Mary J. Stewart, V. G.; Mrs. Josephine Brown, Sec.; Mrs. Sarah E. Andrews, Treas. Four new members have been received; the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month are the dates for regular meetings.

Evansburg is one of the oldest villages in the county. Its founder was Abner Evans, who was one of the earliest settlers in Sadsbury Township. He patented the two tracts containing Evansburg and adjoining it on the east, and settled on the site of Evansburg as early as 1796, and remained there through life. Joseph T. Cummings started a store as early as 1816. Willis Benedict, his salesman, succeeded him, and was the sole village merchant for many years. James Stanford, a cabinet-maker, Zerah Blakely, a carpenter, and Richard Van Sickle were among the earliest residents. Alfred Strong kept an

early tavern; so also did Rosanna Mushrush. Her twin daughters, Desolate and Lonely, were early school teachers at Evansburg and vicinity. James McEntire was another pioneer pedagogue of the little village. The village grew apace, and when the canal was built, presented quite a thriving appearance. It was then as large as now, or larger, and did a greater amount of business, having five general stores beside a number of grocery stores. When the dam was built at the outlet of Conneaut Lake, after the canal was constructed and the surrounding land was flooded, the decomposing vegetable matter filled the atmosphere with deadly malaria, and to escape its ravages most of Evansburg's settlers removed from the village. The perils diminishing, in a few years many returned. The time of greatest sickness was about 1840. Jacob Young was a tailor at Evansburg as early as 1810. George Royer was a carpenter in the village at the same date. Two tanneries flourished in early times, one owned by James Stratton, the other by Fox & DeWolf. Rev. Timothy Alden established the first Sabbath-school.

CHAPTER XXI.

SOUTH SHENANGO TOWNSHIP.

Erection — Population — Physical Features — Westford — Marshall's Corners — McLean's Corners — Population Company Contracts — Early Settlers—Indians—First Teachers—Religious Organizations.

SHENANGO was one of the original townships formed in 1800. It was then about eight miles square and occupied the southwest corner of the county. A division into North and South Shenango occurred in 1830, and the territory of the latter was reduced in 1863 by the erection of West Shenango. South Shenango now contains 17,258 acres. Its population in 1850 was 1,664; in 1860, 1,393; in 1870, 1,042, and in 1880, 991. The surface is almost level. The low lands were wet and marshy in pioneer times, but are now productive farms. On the higher land the soil is clay; it is a sandy loam along the streams. Shenango Creek, the boundary line between South and West Shenango, is the only stream of importance. It is enlarged by numerous little tributaries. Poplar was the principal timber, with a considerable sprinkling of white oak, chestnut and pine along the creek.

The Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad crosses the township north and south. There is one station, Westford, in South Shenango, established in 1881. The next year a store was started, and in 1883 a grist-mill was put in operation by Carkhuff & Hulbert. A blacksmith-shop and several dwellings are also found here, and the place bids fair to make a thriving little village. Westford is the nearest approach to a village in the township. A postoffice existed for many years at Marshall's Corners, but was abandoned soon after the railroad was built. Another was started at McLean's Corners in the southwest part near the railroad, but it has likewise been abolished. An ashery, store, blacksmith-shop and railroad station are among the things of the past at this point. Hulbert & Martin have a cheese factory in the northwest part of the township, where a stave factory is also found. Jamestown, on the southern confines, has some territory taken from this township.

The township lies mostly within the Pennsylvania Population Land District, and the following persons agreed at the time mentioned to settle the various tracts within a few days from the date of contract, and were to receive the following amounts of land: Tract 776, John Burfield, May 1, 1798, 100 acres, deed delivered to James Dickey, assignee of Burfield; 777, Samuel Ewart, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, deed delivered to James Davis, assignee of Ewart, February 4, 1807; 778, John Gallagher, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, settled under contract; 779, Joseph Elliott, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, deed delivered October 6, 1808; 780, John Elliott, September 28, 1798, 200 acres, settled under contract; 781, William Reed, June 4, 1798, 200 acres, settled under contract; 782, David Logan, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, deed granted; 788, James Wilson, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, settled under contract; 789, John Graham, May 1, 1798, 100 acres, settled; 790, Thomas Elliott, December 1, 1798, 200 acres, settled; 791, John Ewing, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, deed delivered; 792, Andrew McArthur, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, settled; 793 (partly in West Shenango), swamp; 794, Robert Story, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, deed delivered August 17, 1808; 795, Robert McConahey, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, settled under contract; 796, John Cochran, December 11, 1796, 200 acres, settled under contract; 797, Thomas Ewing, May 1, 1797, 200 acres; 798, Margaret Wyley, May 9, 1798, 100 acres, deed granted John McGranahan, assignee of Wyley; 805, Hugh Fletcher, July 1, 1797, 100 acres, deeded Gilbert Wade, assignee of Fletcher; 806, Jacob Laymaster, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, settled under contract; 807, James Cochran, December 11, 1798, 200 acres, deed delivered to John Cochran, assignee of James, September 17, 1809; 808, Robert McArthur, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, deed delivered; 809, William McArthur, May 1, 1798, 200 acres, deed delivered; 814, Quintin Brooks, September 24, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; 815, unsold, cabin built and eight acres cleared for company in 1798; 816, Sally Fletcher, September 24, 1797, 100 acres, deed delivered to H. Hollenbach, assignee of Fletcher; 823, Arthur Connor, September 30, 1809, 100 acres settled under contract; 824, Daniel McConahey, September 21, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; 825, Ann Brooks, September 27, 1797, 200 acres, setttled under contract; same tract, Alexander McEhhaney, October 5, 1809, 100 acres, settled under contract; 835 (partly in West Shenango), John Brooks, September 21, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; same tract, Thompson McMasters, August 27, 1811, 200 acres; 836, William McArthur, September 21, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; 837, John Wilson, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; 838, William Snodgrass, September 21, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; 839, David Ashbaugh, November 20, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; 840, eight acres cleared for company.

All the above are still remembered as early settlers except John Burfield, Samuel Ewart, James Wilson, John Graham, Margaret Wylie, Jacob Laymaster and David Ashbaugh, who if they settled in the township probably remained but a short time. Most of the others were life long residents and now have descendants in the township.

Michael Marshall was probably the first settler, hailing from Lancaster County; he was one of Power's surveying party for the Pennsylvania Population Company, and for his services received the east half of Tract 813, which he settled in 1796. He first came out alone, erected a shanty, then returned to the East and brought his wife and child in the autumn of the same year to the wilderness home. He was one of the original members of the Shenango United Presbyterian Church, and a life-long citizen of the township. His death occurred in his eighty-fifth year. Joseph Marshall, his son, is now the

oldest pioneer remaining. He was born August 3, 1798, and was the first white child born in the township. The Marshalls are yet numerous in the township.

Patrick and William Davis were here in 1798. Other pioneers who arrived a little later were David Atchison, James Angelo, William Beans, Robert Boyd, Robert Bennett, William Campbell, Jonathan Craven, Solomon and William Douthitt, Archibald Davis, Peter Free, James and Matthew Gamble, Gersham Hull, George Jewell, Thomas Laughery, Charles Logan, Matthew and James McElhaney, John McLaughlin, John Mullen, James Mason, Hugh Murdock, John Ralston, Henry and Peter Royal, Moses Scott, John, Thomas, Matthew and Jesse Snodgrass and Andrew Thompson. They were all here prior to 1810. Moses Allen, a native of New Jersey, came to the township about 1801.

David Atchison was the first Justice of the Peace. He came from Lancaster County. William Beans was a young unmarried man, who studied theology with Rev. Mr. McLean, but soon abandoned it. William Campbell operated an early grist-mill on Shenango Creek. William Douthitt, Alexander McElhaney and John and Jesse Snodgrass owned distilleries, and Benjamin Snodgrass a saw-mill. Thomas Elliott and William Lewis also had early saw-mills. William Snodgrass was an early Justice of the Peace. The first milling was done at Greenville, and some time after Campbell's mill was started John Clyde constructed a small one on Tract 812. James McMaster and Robert McKinley had carding-mills in the southern part of the township. Black salts were made in considerable quantities in early times from lye, and in consequence ashes commanded a ready sale; many settlers thus obtained money with which to pay their taxes.

For years after the first settlers arrived Indians encamped in great numbers on the banks of the Shenango, where they engaged in hunting and sugar-making. One Indian, known as Jake Kashandy, was a general favorite with the pioneers. He was accustomed to visit a cabin and complain of sickness. When asked what would relieve him he quickly responded, "cup tea," and usually obtained it. He afterward repaid the kindness, usually with a haunch of venison, or other wild game. Kashandy was killed in a drunken Indian brawl about 1804, while encamped on the creek, and the perpetrators of the deed were never apprehended.

Peter Smith taught the first school about 1802, in the western part of Tract 814, in a cabin which had been used as a barn. Henry, Moses, John, Katie and Betsy Laughery, Joseph, Samuel and Jane Marshall, the Cochrans and others attended. Edward Hatton held the next term in a log-house built on Tract 808 for school purposes. He continued a pedagogue for several years. Miss Datie Buell also taught early.

The first organization of the Associate Reformed, later United Presbyterian denomination, in Crawford County, was effected with ten members in Shenango Township in 1801, by Rev. Daniel McLean, who, in 1802, was installed its pastor in connection with Sandy and Salem Churches, Mercer County. This pastorate was continued fifty-four years, and was terminated in April, 1854, only three months previous to Rev. McLean's death, in his eighty-fourth year. He possessed unquestioned devotion to the ministry and strong mental and physical powers. The first services of this congregation were held under a tent near the graveyard, and about 1805 a log building was erected in which to worship. In 1818 a second house was built. It was the first frame building in the township. Its furniture consisted of a high narrow pulpit and large square pews with straight backs. The walls and ceiling were unplastered

and the interior undefiled by the painter's brush. It was occupied until 1879, when a handsome frame edifice, 35x60, was erected on the same site, near the center of Tract 797, at a cost of $5,000. It was dedicated June 17, 1880. David Nelson, Joseph Work, Thomas Ewing and Hugh Fletcher were the first Elders. The present session consists of John S. Davis, William Q. Snodgrass, John McQuiston, Robert Bennett and Perry Marshall. The membership is about seventy-five. In 1840 it was 350. Rev. J. A. Collins was pastor from 1858 to 1863; J. B. Waddle from 1866 to 1871; John Armstrong from 1875 to 1877; Rev. D. F. Dickson came as stated supply in August, 1878, and was installed pastor in June, 1880. He remained until 1882. At present a vacancy exists.

Ebenezer Associate Reformed Church was organized in 1864. Its members had withdrawn from the United Presbyterian Church for political reasons, and connected themselves with the Associate Reformed Church of the South. The congregation started with thirty-five members, and its first pastor was Rev. James Burrows, who is yet in charge. In 1868 a church was erected in the northwest corner of Tract 790. James Martin and Free Patton were the first Elders, Robert Martin and William G. Wade the present ones. In September, 1881, the congregation on application was received into the United Presbyterian Presbytery. The membership is sixty.

North Bank Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1824 with about nine members by Rev. Charles Thorn. Among the earliest members were Charles Campbell and wife, William Fonner and wife, Aaron Herriott and wife, Mark Royal and Rebecca and Christina Fonner. It was attached to Williamsport, Ohio, Circuit, and at first preaching was held on week days, once in four weeks. Early meetings were held in private houses and in the schoolhouse until about 1845 where the present church was built in the northern part of Tract 67 on land donated by Charles Campbell. The building was remodeled in 1878 at a cost of over $1,000. The membership is about fifty. The congregation is a part of Espyville Circuit.

CHAPTER XXII.

SPARTA TOWNSHIP.

SPARTA TOWNSHIP—BOUNDARIES—ERECTION—POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—MILLS—LAND COMPANIES—EARLY PIONEERS—EARLY JUSTICE—EARLY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

BOROUGH OF SPARTANSBURG—LOCATION—BUSINESS—EARLY SETTLERS—FIRST NAME—INCORPORATION—OFFICERS—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION—SOCIETIES.

SPARTA TOWNSHIP occupies the northeast corner of Crawford County, and is bounded on the north by Erie and on the east by Warren County; Rome Township bounds it on the south, and Bloomfield on the west. The territory of Sparta in 1800 was a part of Mead Township, but in the same year it was made a portion of the newly organized Oil Creek. In 1811 Bloomfield was erected, and included the whole of Sparta, which in 1829 became a separate township. By Act of Assembly approved April 23, 1829, Sparta Township was made a new election district, and the house of George White appointed

as the voting place. It has an area of 24,883 acres. The population in 1850 was 884; in 1860, 1,254; in 1870, 1,131; in 1880, 1,181. The apparent decrease for the last two decades is produced by the separate enumeration of Spartansburg, previously included in the census of the township. The surface is rolling and hilly, and is drained by the East Branch of Oil Creek, together with Britton. It contains the highest land in the county, many of the summits rising to an altitude of 1,225 feet above Lake Erie. The principal woods were hemlock, beech and maple, interspersed with groves of pine and with ash, cherry, bass and elm. A considerable part of the land is yet uncleared, and lumbering is an important industry. William B. Sterling, in 1829, erected the first saw-mill. It stood on Oil Creek, Tract 1614, and was operated by the builder fifteen years, then abandoned. The Akins', at Spartansburg, constructed the second saw-mill, and George Tucker the third, near Glyndon Station, operating it for many years. The saw-mills now include Lamb's water-mill and handle factory, on Tract 1650, two and a half miles south from Spartansburg; Akin's steam saw and planing-mill, a mile northeast of the village; Ogden's and Himebaugh Bros.' steam mills, in the southeast part; Taylor's water-mill, on Tract 1610, Britton Run; Chase's steam mill, in the southern part; and several shingle-mills. Only the soft woods were sawed by the early mills, cucumber, hemlock, pine and poplar.

The first grist-mill was erected near the west line of the township, on Britton Run, by Andrew Britton. It was what was denominated a corn-cracker, not rising to the dignity of a flour-mill; but it was a welcome addition to the neighboring settlers, who could fare sumptuously on corn-bread, wild meats and potatoes. The mill had an overshot water-wheel, and was situated at the very headwaters of the run. The flow of water, however, was much stronger than now. The next corn-cracker was owned and operated in early times by Moses Higgins. It stood on Cold Brook, in Tract 286, in the northeast part of the township. William B. Sterling erected, on the site of his abandoned saw-mill, a carding and fulling-mill which he operated for about fifteen years.

The northern part of Sparta was a portion of the vast domains of the Holland and North American Land Companies. The southern part is included within the Eighth Donation District. The first settlements were made in the northern part, though they were few. A tragic interest attaches to this locality from the brutal murder of Hugh Fitz Patrick by a ruffian stranger, George Speth Van Holland. Mr. Fitz Patrick was one of the foremost pioneers, having settled here prior to 1810. His cabin stood on the line between Tracts 286 and 398, near Akin's saw-mill, a mile northeast of Spartansburg. Here he dwelt in the wilderness in February, 1817, with his wife, the daughter of Daniel Carlin, of Rome Township, and their infant daughter, only a few weeks old when the terrible deed was committed.*

Among the earliest pioneers were Patrick Fitz Patrick and a brother to Hugh, Andrew Britton, and the Prices, all of whom had settled here prior to 1810. Patrick Fitz Patrick located in the northeast part of Tract 398. He died and was buried on the farm. His son Andrew afterward managed the farm for awhile, then moved away. Andrew Britton came with his father from near Philadelphia and settled in the extreme western part, on the farm now owned by Horace Alsdurf. He raised a large family, cleared a large farm and removed to Ohio. The Prices settled on Tract 406 in the northwest corner of the township.

The Blakeslees were the most numerous early family. Reuben Blakeslee

* See County History for full account.

in 1817 came from Granville, Washington Co., N. Y., to Meadville, and in the following spring to Sparta, settling on Tract 158, a mile south of Spartansburg, where he died July 20, 1848, aged sixty-two years. He was soon followed to Sparta Township by his brothers, David, Jason, Hiram, Jesse, Gersham and John, and their father David. The father had been a Captain in the war of 1812; he settled on Tract 150, a mile and a half southwest from Spartansburg and remained till death. David Blakeslee, Jr., also settled on this tract. Jason found a home on Tract 1663, in the southwest part, and Jesse on Tract 150. Gersham located in the southern part on Tract 1659. Hiram settled in Richmond Township, and John in Rome, the latter afterward moving to Michigan. Gersham died in Concord Township, Erie County. The others remained in Sparta till death, and most of the brothers still have descendants in the township.

Hugh Coil, an Irishman, son of Roger Coil, of Rome Township, settled about 1815 on Tract 1644 in the southern part of the township, and remained there till death. He was a Baptist minister, and a successful hunter and farmer. Walter Crouch some time prior to 1820 located a home on Tract 1612 in the southern part of the township. He first erected a little shanty, hanging a blanket over the door-way. This protection did not prove adequate against the wild denizens of the forest, for the wolves came in one day during his absence and devoured a young porker domiciled within. Mr. Crouch soon after departed for other regions. Henry Graves settled on the same tract, also, anterior to 1820. He was a farmer and a cooper, and died in Rome Township. Alonson Spaulding was here equally early. He settled in the southwest part but soon after moved away. Stephen Curtis settled early on Tract 1664 in the southwest part of the township. He died in consequence of a kick from a horse, and his family soon afterward sought a home elsewhere.

From 1820 to 1830 a considerable number of settlers arrived. Among them were: Benjamin Rorobeck, who had served in the war of 1812, Joshua Whitney, George White, hailing from Whitehall, N. Y.; Samuel Holmes and Nathan Southwick. Many of those who settled in the Donation District in the southern part of the township came from Washington County, N. Y. William Kinney, from that county, settled on Tract 150, a mile and a half southwest from Spartansburg, in 1824, and remained there until his death. His brother Freeman Kinney arrived a few years later. William B. Spaulding, from near Albion, N. Y., came in 1828, and settled on Tract 1614. In 1864 he removed to Corry. Few of the earliest pioneers remained in Sparta through life. The township is not yet thoroughly settled, a considerable body of uncleared land remaining in the eastern part.

Early houses of entertainment were kept by Mr. Blakeslee and George White. At the cabin of the latter East Bloomfield Postoffice was established, the first in the township. During the years 1826–27, before the erection of schoolhouse or church, religious meetings were conducted by Rev. Amos Chase at the cabin of Marcus Turner. Dr. Horace Eaton was the first physician. The Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railroad crosses the township centrally from northeast to southwest. Glyndon is a station near the south line.

William B. Sterling was the first Justice of the Peace. One of his first official duties was to prescribe justice to an unloving couple, who could not long occupy the same house without an undue exhibition of connubial infelicity by way of numerous hair pullings and other marks of deficient affection. The Justice decreed that the better half should remain in sole and exclusive possession of the cabin, and that her consort under the penalties of the law should not approach within a radius of two miles. The children, however,

were allowed by the terms of the legal instrument prepared to pass beyond this limit and visit their father.

The first school was taught by Patty Blakeslee in a deserted cabin which stood about a mile south from Spartansburg. The next was taught by Miss Phœbe Patton in the first schoolhouse built in the township. It stood in the southern part, near the northwest corner of Tract 1644. Miss Phœbe Dickey soon after succeeded and instructed the youth for several years. Stephen Post was also a pioneer pedagogue here. Miss Ruth Gleason held a term about 1833 in a schoolhouse built a half mile west of the village.

BOROUGH OF SPARTANSBURG.

Spartansburg is a thriving borough, situated near the center of Sparta Township, for the people of which the village is the chief trading and business point. The census of 1870 accredited it with 457 inhabitants, and of 1880 with 486. The population now exceeds five hundred. The Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railroad passes through its midst and the east branch of Oil Creek meanders southward, affording excellent water-power. The surrounding country is not yet wholly divested of its primeval forests, as the numerous saw-mills throughout this region fully attest. At Spartansburg is a saw-mill, shingle-mill, planing-mill, grist-mill and woolen-mill. Its mercantile business includes two dry goods stores, five groceries, two drug stores, two hardware stores and a furniture store. It has also two millinery establishments, two meat markets, a bank, two hotels, two churches, three physicians, a dentist, two harness-shops, two blacksmith-shops, one shoe-shop, and a wagon-shop. The schoolhouse is a commodious two-story frame structure, containing three apartments, all of which are required to accommodate the youth of the village. Spartansburg Bank was organized in January, 1882. I. H. Burt is President, and F. D. Catlin, Cashier.

The first clearing was made by Abraham Blakeslee, on land east of the creek. Soon after 1830 Andrew and Aaron Akin, two brothers from Erie County, erected a grist and saw-mill on the creek in the woods, and thus gave origin to the village. The mill property has passed through many hands and is now owned by Eldred & Thompson. The saw-mill has been abandoned, and to the water-power of the grist-mill steam has been superadded. The mill has five run of stone and is widely patronized. Andrew and Aaron Akin, having disposed of the mill which they founded in the wilderness in 1837, started the first store. Eli D. Catlin was the next proprietor of the store. He also operated an ashery for a few years. He became the proprietor of most of the land in the borough west of the creek, and surveyed and laid out the village plat. Jotham Blakeslee was an early blacksmith. Smallman & McWilliams in 1849 built on the creek a carding and fulling-mill. It was purchased by Harvey Lamb, who in 1862 enlarged the building and converted it into a well-fitted woolen-mill, which he still operates. Chauncey Akin in early times had a small bowl factory, William Bassett a chair factory, and John McWilliams a tannery, all of which have long ceased to exist. The village has grown slowly and steadily up to the present time. In March, 1878, it was visited by a destructive fire which swept both sides of Main Street from the depot westward to the distance of a square, reducing to ashes about thirty buildings, including the business part of the village. From this disaster the town speedily recovered and the site of the ruins has been covered by new and more commodious structures.

In early times the village was called Akinsville. On the establishment of a

postoffice some time after, its name was changed to Spartansburg, and as such it was incorporated in 1856. The early records are not at hand. Recent Burgesses have been the following: C. H. Buck, 1868; J. W. Williams, 1869, A. M. Ketchum acting as Burgess the greater part of that year; G. F. Koester, 1870; E. D. White, 1871; Charles W. Hewell, 1872; C. M. Newell, 1873; John G. Burlingham, 1874; W. W. White, 1875; H. L. White, 1876; S. H. Blakeslee, 1877; Harvey Lamb, 1878–79; Frank Fralick, 1880–81; J. L. Conner, 1882; D. W. Tryon, 1883; William Elston, 1884.

Bloomfield Baptist Church was formed in June, 1820, by Rev. James Williams, a licensed Baptist minister, assisted by Elder O. Alford. A portion of the membership was from Erie County, and in 1823 meetings were transferred to Concord Township, that county. The society flourished, conducting services just across the line, two and a half miles north of Spartansburg, until about 1849, when Spartansburg Baptist Congregation was formed by the removal of Concord Society to this borough. At this time A. J. Millard and wife, A. Matteson, Joseph Cook and wife, John Carpenter and wife, Isaac Shreve and wife, and Benjamin Darrow and wife were the leading members. The church was built in 1851. It is a substantial, commodious frame structure. This congregation has been attended by Elders Pierce, Devan, Mills, Kelsee, Hayes, DuBois, George Shearer, Dennison and Hovey. The last named is the present pastor, entering upon his duties in January, 1884.

Spartansburg Methodist Episcopal Church was organized about 1827, by Rev. I. H. Tackett. Zebulon Miller, Abner Miller, James Miller, Orrin Miller, Corey Goldin, Green Alsdurf and wife, and Robert Goldin were early members. Meetings were first held in the schoolhouse, a fourth mile west of the village, then in the schoolhouse in the eastern part of the borough and afterward in the Presbyterian Church until the present edifice was reared in 1877. It is located east of the creek, is about 34x60 feet in size, and cost $2,600. Until the church was erected the membership at no time exceeded thirty-five. It has since increased to about 120. Spartansburg Circuit was formed in 1870 and has had the following pastors: L. D. Brooks, 1870; J. Garnett, 1871–72; T. Burrows, 1873–74; J. W. Wilson, 1875–76-77; C. M. Coburn, 1878–79–80; I. D. Darling, 1881-82; T. W. Douglass, 1883. The circuit includes four appointments, three of which, Beaver Dam, Elgin and Concord, are in Erie County. Prior to the creation of this circuit Spartansburg society had been attached to various circuits, Cambridge, Riceville, Spring Creek and others.

The Presbyterian Church of Sparta was organized May 21, 1844, by Revs. George W. Hampson and Amos Chase. Its first members were Eli D. Catlin and Mabel his wife, Wolcutt Bennett and Sally his wife, Mrs. Lua Smith, Joseph Culver, Mrs. Mary Culver, Eli D. Catlin, Jr., Mrs. Sarah Catlin, Isaac Farndon and Nancy his wife, William McLay, Nathan Southwick, Josiah Brown, Charles Day and wife, and John Day and Sarah his wife. The first Elders were Josiah Brown, Eli D. Catlin and Horace Day. Eli D. Catlin, Jr., Henry J. Smith, Charles Huntley and Isaac Farndon since served in that capacity. Meetings were held in the old schoolhouse until a large frame church was erected on the south side of Main Street. It was dedicated in October, 1849, by Rev. George W. Hampson. The church never had an installed pastor. Rev. William Johns commenced his labors as supply in 1844. Rev. O. M. Chapin followed him in 1851, remaining until 1866. Rev. Daniel M. Rankin succeeded and remained eighteen months and since then there have been no regular services and the congregation is no longer active.

A Congregational Church was organized October 15, 1875, by a council

composed of representatives from seven surrounding congregations. The original membership included J. T. Waid, W. W. Youngson and William Major, who were the first Elders; Homer J. Hall, Porter S. Ketchum, Jones. Major, Peter P. Beisel, Isaac Catern, Eli Deland and sixteen female members Services have been held in the Presbyterian Church. Rev. L. L. Radcliff supplied the church for a few months, followed by Rev. W. S. McKellar, who remained four years. The pulpit was then filled by several supplies of brief duration, after which no regular services have been held. The membership is about thirty.

A Lodge of Odd Fellows was organized at Spartansburg about 1850, maintained probably ten years, then disbanded. Spartan Lodge, No. 372, F. & A. M., was organized January 2, 1867, with eleven members. It now numbers thirty and meets on the first Monday evening of each month.

Success Council, No. 194. Royal Arcanum, was instituted December 10, 1878. It has now about thirty members and meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Rev. W. S. McKellar was the first Regent.

The Order of the Guardian Knights was organized at Spartansburg in 1879. The Supreme Encampment was incorporated October 16, 1879, and its officers for 1880–81 were: W. S. McKellar, Supreme Commander; F. E. Mulkie, Inspector; Paul Blackmar, Prelate; J. T. Waid, Surgeon; John I. Thompson, Recorder; A. W. Hecker, Treasurer; E. A. Hoffman, Captain of the Guard; John Jude, Lieutenant of the Guard; T. G. Tyler, Sentinel; William M. Major, Vidette. The Order has a total membership of about 500. Dirigo Encampment, No. 1, was organized at Spartansburg in 1879, and now has about thirty members. It meets the first and third Mondays of each month.

CHAPTER XXIII.

SPRING TOWNSHIP.

SPRING TOWNSHIP—NAME—PHYSICAL FEATURES—POPULATION—LAND TITLES—EARLY SETTLERS—ADVENTURES OF PIONEERS—EARLY MILLS—LUMBERING—EARLY SCHOOLS—TEACHERS—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS—RUNDEL'S POST-OFFICE.

BOROUGH OF CONNEAUTVILLE—INCORPORATION—ELECTION—OFFICERS—FIRE DEPARTMENT—POPULATION—CANAL DAYS—PRESENT INDUSTRIES—MERCANTILE PURSUITS—ALEXANDER POWER—ORIGINAL PLAT—FIRST SETTLERS—PRESS—BANK—CEMETERY—AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES.

BOROUGH OF SPRING—LOCATION—POPULATION—BUSINESS—FIRST SETTLERS—POSTOFFICE—INCORPORATION—ELECTION—OFFICERS—SCHOOL—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES.

WHEN the second general sub-division of the county occurred, in 1829, one of the new northern ones was christened Snowhill. This dreary title was displeasing to its citizens, inasmuch as a neighboring township possessed the genial name of Summerhill, so they petitioned the Judge of the Court to grant them a new name. He listened kindly to their prayer, and vested the township with the genial title Spring. The cabin of Hiram Woodward was fixed upon by the Assembly as the first election place. The township is regular in outline, seven miles east and west, and almost as great north

and south. Its three western tiers of tracts were received from Beaver Township, the four eastern from Cussewago. The western part is drained by Conneaut Creek, which flows northward and reaches Lake Erie; the eastern part by the headwaters of Cussewago Creek, a tributary of French Creek. The soil is of good quality and well adapted either for grain-raising or grazing. The Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad crosses north and south through the western tier of tracts, and the old Beaver and Erie Canal followed the course of Conneaut Creek through the township. The population of Spring in 1850 was 1,836; in 1860 it was 1,862; in 1870, 1,522, and in 1880, 1,524. The village of Spring was included in the first two enumerations mentioned.

The two northern tiers of tracts and the fractions above them were patented by individuals, as were also twelve tracts extending in two rows from Conneautville northward, and one tract east of the village. The balance of the township was owned by the Pennsylvania Population Company except six sections in the southeast part, which were the property of the Holland Land Company. Contracts for settlement were made by the former company with the persons and at the dates below given. The amount of land negotiated for in each tract and the result are also given: James Luce, Tract 637, November 20, 1797, 200 acres; deed delivered to Philip Mott February 27, 1805. Elijah Luce, 638, November 27, 1797, 200 acres; deed delivered to Philip Mott in 1805. Michael Sloops, 645, November 27, 1797, 200 acres; settled under contract. 646, unsold. George Nelson, 647, September 21, 1797, 301 acres; settled under contract. Gravner Bailey, 648, October 14, 1797, 200 acres; small improvement made by Bailey and abandoned; intruded on in 1801, and again abandoned after three or four years settlement. 649, 650 and 651, intruded on a few years and since abandoned. 652, Samuel Powers, April 24, 1805, 100 acres; Powers was first an intruder, then a purchaser, and has since left the land and country. John Burna, 653, November 10, 1797, 200 acres; settled two or three years under the contract, then intruded on and since abandoned. 654, unsold. 655, James Gardner, November 1, 1797, 100 acres; settled under contract. 656, unsold. 657, James Patterson, November 1, 1797, 100 acres; settled under contract. 658. Samuel Patterson, November 1, 1797, 200 acres; settled under contract. 659, James McKee, November 28, 1809, 100 acres; settled under contract. 660, Hugh Montgomery, September 24, 1797, 200 acres; settled under contract. 665, Hugh Montgomery, September 24, 1797, 100 acres; settlement completed. 666, unsold. 671, Gardner Rhodes, August 20, 1798, 200 acres; deed delivered to Rhodes, who conveyed to Daniel Compton. 672, Samuel Rhodes, November 20, 1798, 200 acres; deed delivered to Rhodes. 677, small improvement under contract and given up to company. 678, John Lock, November 20, 1797, 200 acres; small improvement, then abandoned. Both 677 and 678 were intruded upon in 1801, 1802 and 1803, but since abandoned.

As indicated by the above, dissensions were rife between the company and the occupants of the land. A number who settled under contract were afterward led to believe that the company had no good title, and in consequence abandoned the contract and often sought to hold the entire tract by virtue of their rights as resident settlers. In this attempt, however, they were ultimately worsted. Others settled on the tracts without a contract, expecting under the land laws to acquire a title by virtue of residence and improvements made. In this they were disappointed, as the land company maintained its claim after lengthy litigation in the courts.

The first contracts for settlement on the Holland Land Company's tracts in the eastern part of this township were as follows: Tract 1, Samuel Patterson

100 acres gratuity, 50 acres sold, 150 acres, contract dated August 13, 1798, deed delivered June 11, 1812; Tract 3, Joseph Stanford, 100 acres gratuity, 50 acres sold, contract dated May 22, 1797, deed executed September 23, 1804; Tract 6, John Summers, 100 acres gratuity, 50 acres sold, May 23, 1798, deed delivered June 2, 1803; Tract 9, Andrew Parker, 100 acres gratuity, 50 acres sold, September 13, 1799, repurchased; Tract 12, Joseph Stanford, 100 acres gratuity, 50 acres sold, September 13, 1799, deed executed June 2, 1803; Tract 15, Joseph Baker, 100 acres gratuity, 50 acres sold, May 17, 1797.

Alexander and William Power in 1794 and 1795 located several tracts near Conneautville and about 1804 the former removed to the site of that village and became its founder. In 1797 Samuel Fisher, with his wife, four sons and three daughters, emigrated from Cumberland County and settled at Guntown, a mile north of Conneautville. He remained here till his death at the age of seventy-five years. His son Thomas was the first Justice of the Peace in what is now Spring Township, was a Major of militia and served three months at Erie, and in old age removed to Wisconsin, where he died. Christopher Ford settled on the tract north of Spring Borough prior to 1798. He had a large family and about 1816 sold his farm and removed to Conneaut, Ohio. James Orr was another of the foremost pioneers and was the proprietor of the two tracts upon parts of which Spring Borough is located. After a few years' residence Mr. Orr removed from the vicinity.

Other pioneers prior to 1800, says Judge Crozier, were James McNamara, John Foster, Samuel Thompson, Rebecca Simpson, Samuel McKee, George Nelson, Henry Mott, James Smiley, William and John Gardner, Andrew Parker and Martin Montgomery. Of these, he continues, Smiley, Montgomery, William Fisher, Parker and "Kentucky Sam" Fisher settled on the Land Company's tracts and afterward left. George Nelson hailed from Ireland. His children were James, John, Robert and Margaret (McDowell). Other early settlers were John Fleming, Samuel Simpson and David and James Thompson. Henry Cook came in 1799 from Westmoreland County, and settled two miles north of Spring Borough, where he remained till death.

From 1804 to 1816 little improvement was made except the clearing of land and the gradual substitution of hewed-log for round-log cabins. The increase in population was scarcely perceptible, but about 1816 an immigration commenced from the East, and ten or twelve years later nearly every tract was occupied by two or more families. Among these first settlers from the East were the Bowmans, Powells, Halls, Wells, Sturtevants, Woodards, Woods, Sheldons, Temples, Hurds, Ponds, Hotchkisses, Baldwins, Mylers, Wetmores, Greens, Jenks, Bolards and Thomases. In the east part of the township were Platt Rogers, Robert Temple, Justice Ross, Judd Hotchkiss, the Sperrys, Rundels and others. Bowman bought the Ford farm; Powell, the McKee farm; the Halls, the Orr farm; Myler the McNamara farm; W. P. Thomas the Scott farm; Bolard the John Thompson farm. The others purchased unimproved farms and underwent all the toils and privations of pioneer life.

Mrs. Thomas Fisher and Mrs. David Thompson were once picking berries, when they heard the vigorous squealing of a hog in the woods just over the brow of a hill. Hastening in that direction the unfortunate pig was discovered in the clutches of a large bear, which was devouring it alive. Mrs. Thompson went for assistance and soon reappeared with Thomas Fisher, who with his rifle speedily killed offending Bruin.

Henry Christy while hunting discovered in a dense thicket at the foot of a poplar tree an old bear and three half grown cubs. The recognition was mutual, and before he could get a shot the old bear was upon him, while the

cubs ascended a tree. By a precipitous retreat he eluded his pursuer after quite a race. Twice again he advanced, but could not see the bear until within twenty or thirty feet of it. Each time he was discovered before he could draw a bead on the bear and only saved his life by fleeing in hot haste. At the fourth advance he secured a shot and the bear fell dead. In reloading he found he had lost all his bullets in his pell-mell races. He at once went to a house a half mile away, moulded some bullets and returning added the three young bears to the products of the chase that day.

About 1805 John Foster was at work upon a new house about a mile from his cabin. About noon his wife sent their little boy about four years old to call his father to dinner. The boy not arriving, Mr. Foster worked away for some time, and at last started home alone. When he reached his cabin he was surprised to learn that his son had been sent to summon him to his noon-day meal. An anxious search for the missing boy was at once commenced; the neighbors far and near scoured the woods in all directions, but no trace of the lost child was ever discovered. Conjectures of his probable fate were various; by many it was supposed he was picked up and carried off by straggling Indians.

In 1830 Robert Foster, another son of John Foster, went deer hunting. The snow was six inches deep and a bitter cold evening approached, but the young hunter did not return. The suspense at length became unbearable and a search was instituted. On the third day, when from 200 to 300 men were threading the forest in a tireless quest, he was found dead within eighty rods of the house. It was believed that bewilderment and fatigue had overcome him while wandering circuitously through the blinding drift storm.

Hunting was often indulged in by the pioneers, and usually resulted successfully. Among the most successful deer slayers were Robert Foster, Andrew Christy, Thomas Fisher and George G. Foster. The last named once killed eight in one day, and Mr. Fisher shot a total of fifteen in three successive days.

The earliest settlers brought flour, meal, salt, etc., from Pittsburgh. These were conveyed in boats propelled by from six to twelve men with poles as far as Meadville, and thence were carried on horseback, or quite frequently by the settler along paths and across streams until the destination was reached. In 1799 Alexander Power erected a grist-mill on Conneaut Creek, nearly opposite the Conneautville Catholic Church. Jacob Hildebrand and W. Wilverton were the millwrights and received for the work £84. The irons cost £34. Matthew McClure and John Sloan made the mill-stones from the native rock, receiving £12. The blacksmith work was done by Mr. Chamberlain, of Meadville. The mill proved a great convenience to the settlers, and it was replaced in 1805 by a second mill erected about one-fourth of a mile below. This was a double-geared mill with breast-wheel and one run of stone and bolts. The building was made of hewed-logs, and the roof was built of shingles. George Dickson was the millwright. In 1829 and 1830 Mr. Power built a third grist-mill where the Power mill now stands. In 1801 Samuel Fisher erected a saw and grist-mill on Conneaut Creek about a mile north of Conneautville. William Crozier was the millwright. The grist mill was constructed with a hewed-log-house, lap-shingle roof, undershot wheel, one run of stone, bolt and screen, and was when built one of the best mills in Crawford County, doing most of the grinding of northwestern Crawford and southwestern Erie. Ark Jenks erected a saw and grist-mill on Conneaut Creek near the Erie County line in 1820, and Robert Foster built a grist-mill a mile south of Spring Corners.

The saw-mill built by Mr. Fisher was the first in the township. Previous to its operation, in most cabins the floors consisted of slabs or puncheons split from logs. Doors, benches, tables, stools and bridges were fashioned in a like manner. Clapboards, split in the same way, and bark served for roofing. Mr. Holmes built a saw-mill at Spring Corners. Platt Rogers, in 1820, constructed the first saw-mill in the eastern part of the township at Rundel's. Frederick Bolard, who came from Erie in 1816, in connection with farming did an extensive business in manufacturing bells. Every farmer then used bells for his oxen, cows and sheep, and sometimes they were put on horses when the latter pastured in the woods. Christopher Ford built the first distillery, prior to 1800. John Foster erected a second, Luther Rundel in 1820 built one at Rundeltown. Others were erected, but all have long since disappeared.

Gurdon and R. B. Wood in 1817 and 1818 built the first wool-carding and cloth-dressing establishment on Conneaut Creek, two miles north of Conneautville. The second was erected by Collins Hall at Spring Corners, and after doing business there for a few years was removed by the owner to Guntown.. These mills did a good business in their day. Their owners have moved to the West. Before the mills were set in operation the wool was carded by hand by the women of the household, and then spun into yarn.

The opening of the canal gave an impetus to the lumber trade, and water and steam saw-mills were erected wherever the timber would warrant. Whitewood, ash, lumber and staves found a ready sale in the Eastern markets; oak timber for building canal-boats, railroad cars and vessels at Erie was in good demand. Hemlock timber was sold for building and fencing in the Southern market. Farmers went into the lumbering business to the neglect of their farms. The country was rapidly cleared, and the lumber now remaining is all required for home use.

Saw-milling is still followed in various parts of the township, and among the mills may be mentioned Sheldon's saw and shingle-mill about two miles northeast from Springboro; Dunn's steam saw and shingle and corn-grinding mill about four miles east, and Hickernall's steam saw-mill.

Miss Jane Garner taught the first school in 1811 or 1812 in a log schoolhouse erected on the old Cook farm two miles north of Springboro. The children who attended it were: Christopher Ford's two miles south; James McKee's, three-fourths of a mile southwest; John Garner's two and a half miles southeast; John Fleming's one mile northeast, and Thomas Ford's two miles north. Mrs. Mitty Beals taught a term in her own cabin within the present limits of Springboro about 1817. An early schoolhouse was built on the Powell farm, a mile north of the borough. Mr. Phillips, John Nichols and many others taught there.

The first public religious instruction in the township was dispensed about 1817 by George Stuntz, a local Methodist preacher, at the cabin of Henry Cook. In that year he formed a band of religious people, including Watkin and Sarah Powell, David Hurd and wife and Henry Nickerson and wife, all of whom were Presbyterians, and Elihu Rathbun and wife, Mary Cook and John Peats, who were Methodists. In 1821 Rev. T. C. Truscott, of Erie Circuit, preached to the class once every four weeks, and the following year Rev. W. H. Collins, of the same circuit, disastrously attempted to make the class exclusively Methodist in its cast. The Presbyterians then organized a congregation, erected a small house of worship about a mile north from Springboro, and for a number of years maintained the organization. Rev. John Boyd was the pastor. Many of its members afterward united with the Christian Church.

Spring and Cussewago Baptist Church was constituted in the spring of

1837 by Elder Albert Keith, with twenty-seven members, including William Case the first Deacon, John Turneur, Stutley Carr, Sr., Stutley Carr, Jr., and others. J. S. Bacon, James Patterson, Gamaliel Head and others united until the membership swelled to eighty. It then declined, and in 1852 united as a body with the Springboro congregation. A church edifice had been built in 1838 near the east line of Spring Township, and is still standing, though it has been unoccupied for many years.

A class of the ancient Wesleyan persuasion was organized in 1839 at Hickernell's Corners. The original class included Benjamin Haak, Abraham Hickernell, Sr., Abraham Hickernell, Jr., John Michael and others. Rev. William Howard was the first pastor. Meetings were held in the schoolhouse until 1842, when a frame meeting-house was erected on the site of the present United Brethren Church. The society attained a membership of sixty, then languished.

From the remnants of this society Rev. Willis Lampson in 1850 organized a United Brethren class, its original membership including the Hickernells, Haaks, Michaels, Maynards and others. The old Wesleyan Church was occupied until destroyed by fire about 1857. A year or two later a frame church, 28x36, was erected on the same lot at a cost of $800. It is still used. Early ministers were: Revs. Michael Oswald, G. W. Franklin, William Cadman and Robert Watson. The class forms a part of Cussewago Circuit, and now numbers sixty members. It is the only church in Spring Township.

Rundel's is a postoffice and hamlet in the southeast part. It contains a store, steam saw-mill, cheese factory, blacksmith-shop, wagon-shop and hand rake factory. The only other postoffice in the township is Hickernell's, recently established at Hickernell's Corners, where a store may also be found.

The township is made famous by "Shadeland," the great stock farm of Powell Bros., which has acquired national repute. The estate comprises more than 1,000 acres of choice land, located a mile north from Spring Borough. It is improved by a handsome residence and half a hundred capacious and substantial barns, stables and outbuildings, admirably adapted to the breeding of pure-bred imported live-stock of various classes. A large corps of employes is required, and an immense business is transacted.

Spring Grange, No. 263, was organized May 18, 1874, with twenty-six charter members. Its first Master was W. F. Head; first Secretary, I. S. Bail. It now has thirty-seven members. Present Master, S. B. Lawrence; present Secretary, I. S. Bail. Meets regularly at the residence of the Secretary, I. S. Bail, on the first and third Saturday evenings of each month.

BOROUGH OF CONNEAUTVILLE.

Conneautville, the third place in size and importance in Crawford County, was incorporated as a borough by act of the State Legislature of 1843–44. In compliance with the terms of the act the first election was held Friday, May 24, 1844, at which date the following borough officers were elected: John E. Patton, Burgess; William S. Crozier, Minor T. Carr, George M. Meyler and Charles Rich, Council; Daniel Scovil, High Constable; J. W. Brigden, Clerk; Chancellor St. John and Alexander M. Stilwell, Street Commissioners; Samuel C. Sutliff, Assessor. Mr. Patton served as Burgess until 1853, and his successors with dates of election have been as follows: C. Courtright, 1853; J. E. Patton, 1854; J. Norton, 1855; J. E. Patton, 1856; H. Z. Howe, 1857; S. G. Krick, 1858–59; William H. Darby, 1860; W. W. Power, 1861; W. L. Robinson, 1862; M. Landon, 1863; N. Truesdale, 1864; W. B. Gleason, 1865; Matthew Stilwell, 1866; David Bligh, 1867; G. W. Slayton, 1868; H. J.

Cooper, 1869; W. A. Hammon, 1870; J. C. Sturtevant, 1871; F. Molthrop, 872; J. Bolard, 1873–74 75; H. A. Brinker, 1876; Irvin S. Krick, 1877; T. F. Scott, 1878–79; W. W. Power, 1880–81; John W. Crider, 1882; W. A. Rupert, 1883; E. L. Litchfield, 1884.

The borough about 1878 erected a two-story frame engine-house on Canal Street. It also owns a good hand fire-engine, which has been in service for about twenty-five years. The fire department includes a hook and ladder company.

The population of Conneautville in 1850 was 787; in 1870, 1,000, and in 1880, 941. The borough received its territory partly from Spring and partly from Summerhill Township. It is located in the valley of Conneaut Creek, and on the old Beaver and Erie Canal. It is one and a half miles east of the Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad, with which it is in communication by hack lines. A rich and populous agricultural district surrounds the borough, and of the northwestern portion of Crawford County Conneautville is the principal trading point. In the palmy days of the canal, business was brisker than at present. A heavy lumbering business was transacted here through the facilities afforded by this water-course, and the village reached a population of almost 1,200 in 1860. The discontinuance of the canal wrought a temporary depression of trade, but during the last few years business has again revived, and the present improvements and growth of Conneautville bespeak its future welfare. Among its industries may be specially mentioned the extensive tannery of J. Bolard & Co., with which the one at Spring Borough has been recently consolidated; the Saxon Chemical Works, where acetate of lime, alcohol, tar and charcoal are produced from hard woods; the foundry of Moulthrop & Sons; the large furniture establishment of William H. Derby; another, owned by J. Field; the two grist-mills, one operated by steam and water, owned by O. O. Ticknor & Co., the other operated by water and owned by Butts & Co., both custom mills; and the woolen-mills of J. W. Crider.

The mercantile business of the borough includes three general or dry goods stores, four groceries, three drug stores, three clothing stores, two tailoring establishments, two jewelry stores, two furniture stores, one boot and shoe store, two hardware stores, three millinery stores and two tin-shops. There are also several meat markets, two hotels, two livery stables, a marble-shop, a wagon-shop, three blacksmith-shops, two cooper-shops, two shoe-shops and three harness-shops. Four physicians, two lawyers and two dentists reside and practice at Conneautville.

Alexander Power was the founder of the village. When a young, unmarried man, scarcely past his majority, he with others engaged in the hazardous business of surveying northwestern Pennsylvania during the years 1794 and 1795. Repeatedly the surveying party was obliged to flee from the hostile savages and once the cook, James Thompson, was taken prisoner and conveyed to Detroit, while the camp equipage was scattered and destroyed. While thus engaged, Mr. Power selected a number of tracts which were afterward patented in his name. He was married in 1798 at his home in what is now Perry County, and at once set out on horseback with his wife for a Western home, and settled at the head of Conneaut Lake. About 1804 he removed with his wife and two children to the site of Conneautville, where he remained till his death in May, 1850, at the age of eighty-seven years. He was appointed Justice of the Peace for Allegheny County in 1798 and served many years. About 1800 he built a mill on the site of Butts & Co.'s present mill. Mr. Power was the first Postmaster at Conneautville, receiving his appointment in 1815. His son William was the second. The original plat, as laid out by

Alexander Power in 1815, was rectangular in shape, and was included within High and Main and Arch and Pearl Streets, with a few lots on the southwest side of Main Street. The direction of Main Street is south 60½° east. The public park was included in the original plat. By the construction of the canal the direction of some streets was changed. William Power laid out an addition to the southern line of Spring Township, and the village was afterward extended into Summerhill. For a number of years it was known as Powerstown.

The first house, Alexander Power's, stood on the site of the Presbyterian Church. It was built before the town was laid out. In 1816 William Douglas and Henry Christie erected log-cabins, and in 1817 William Crozier built a frame house, in which he commenced keeping the first tavern in the following December. Peter G. Benway, a shoe-maker, opened a shop in 1819, and Curtis Adams about the same time erected a hewed-log cooper-shop near the corner of Main and Mulberry Streets. His health failing, several years later he abandoned the building, which then became a schoolhouse and ball room. Joseph Pratt, the first blacksmith, came in 1820, occupying the site of the *Courier* office, Main Street. The first store was kept by Richard Dibble in 1815, in Alexander Power's dwelling-house. Mr. Power kept the second in the front room of his dwelling, commencing about 1819; Zimri Lewis the third in 1827. Francis McGuire in 1821 erected the first tannery, on the site of the Courtright Block, corner of Main and Pearl Streets.

The village continued to grow slowly. The building of the canal produced an influx of laborers, mechanics and tradesmen, and the tide of prosperity set in, which has continued with brief interruption to the present. Two destructive fires have visited the place, one in 1867 and the second in 1874, but the village has recovered from the effects of both.

The first newspaper published in Conneautville was the *Union*, started by Platt & Son, in October, 1846, and discontinued the following May. Another unsuccessful venture was the *Crisis*, launched into existence in 1868 by Mr. Field. After three months it was removed to Girard. The first number of the Conneautville *Courier* was issued November 14, 1847, by A. T. Mead and George W. Brown. A year later Mr. Brown became sole owner by purchase, and in October, 1854, he sold the paper to A. J. Mason and Daniel Sinclair. The subscription list increased so rapidly that the introduction of a steam press became necessary. In 1856 Mason purchased Sinclair's interest, and in 1862 sold the paper to R. C. and J. H. Frey, to accept the command of a company in service. He was fatally wounded at Fredericksburg, Va. In February, 1864, the Frey brothers sold the *Courier* to J. E. and W. A. Rupert, publishers of the *Crawford County Record*. The *Record* was started in 1858 by John W. Patton as an advertising sheet, but soon developed into a regular weekly, and a formidable rival of the *Courier*. Mr. Patton entered the army at the breaking out of the Rebellion, and died while holding the rank of Major, of wounds received at Chancellorsville in May, 1863. The establishment had been leased, and was subsequently purchased by Fred H. Braggins, who in December, 1863, sold it to J. E. and W. A. Rupert. After purchasing the *Courier* they published the consolidated papers, under the title *Record and Courier*, until 1870, when the old name, Conneautville *Courier*, was restored by them. These gentlemen still publish the *Courier*, which is Republican in politics, local in character, and has a wide and extensive circulation through Crawford and adjoining counties.

The Conneautville *Independent* was started in April, 1881, by William F. Zell. In the following June he sold it to Rev. J. S. Gledhill, who in turn dis-

posed of it in September of the same year to W. E. McDowell, its present publisher and editor. As indicated by its name, this paper is independent in politics, and has a good circulation, which is rapidly increasing.

The Conneautville National Bank was organized January 1, 1864, and has a capital of $100,000.

The present beautiful cemetery was laid out in 1836, and the first burial in its grounds was that of William Foster, aged three years, son of George G. Foster. In 1864 the grounds were greatly enlarged.

The Crawford County Agricultural Society is the pioneer organization of the kind in the county. It held its first fair at Conneautville in 1852, and fairs have been held annually ever since, increasing in exhibits and visitors until now the society is one of the best and most successful in this portion of the State. The grounds, spacious and well-improved, are located near the southeast corner of the borough.

The first schoolhouse within the limits of the borough was a log building erected in 1812 in the wilderness near Robinson's machine-shops. Long openings for windows were covered with greased paper. The fireplace was without jambs and above the back wall the chimney was built with sticks and mortar made of clay and cut straw. The firewood used was six or eight feet long. Children attended for several miles around. Josiah Brooks was the first teacher, Sheffield Randal the second, James McEntire the third, and Samuel Steele the fourth. In 1813 or 1814, when the school was in session, a messenger in hot haste brought the false news that the British were landing Indians at the mouth of Conneaut Creek to plunder and slaughter the settlers. The children, thoroughly frightened, were at once dispatched to their homes through the woods to spread the alarm that their parents might prepare for defense. During the term of Samuel Steel the schoolhouse burned. He was an Irish shoe-maker and earned an extra honest penny by cobbling for his patrons. A frame schoolhouse was erected in 1828 on the west corner of Water and Center Streets, wherein early church services were also held. The building now used as a Catholic Church at the west extremity of Washington Street was afterward the village schoolhouse. It contained four rooms and was occupied until the present substantial brick structure was reared in 1867–68, at an expense of about $20,000. It contains seven rooms and is situated on a fine school lot of nearly four acres near the east end of Washington Street.

In the spring of 1829 seven persons, Jesse Danley and wife, Thomas Landon, wife, and daughter Esther, George Nelson and grand-daughter, Margaret Nelson, became the original members of the Conneautville Methodist Episcopal Class organized by Rev. Joseph W. Davis, then of Erie Circuit. Early meetings were held in the schoolhouse. In 1837 thirty-two persons subscribed $556 to erect a house of worship. The contract to build was let for $875. Meetings were held in the new frame church in 1838, but it was not finished until 1840. It stood on the southwest corner of Walnut and Main Streets. In 1877 this building was superceded by a handsome brick structure with stone trimmings erected at a contract price of $8,300, exclusive of cost of lot, on the northwest corner of Water and Walnut Streets. Conneautville Class was made a part of Springfield Circuit in 1829, and in 1833 of Summerhill Circuit, changed in 1834 to Harmonsburg Circuit. In 1842 Harmonsburg was divided into Conneautville and Evansburg charges. In 1861 Conneautville was divided and Harmonsburg reformed. In 1868 the former became a station. The pastors of Conneautville Society have been since 1828, Samuel Ayres and Daniel Richey, 1829; Samuel Ayres and John C. Ayres, 1830;

Theodore Stowe and W. R. Babcock, 1831; Jacob Jenks and a supply, 1832; Theodore Stowe and Reuben Peck, 1833; Gustavus Hills and Philander S. Ruter, 1834; G. Hills and C. D. Rockwell, 1835; Benjamin Preston and Warren Griffith, 1836; Daniel Richey, C. R. Chapman, 1837; L. D. Prosser, John Deming, 1838; Isaac Schofield, John Deming, 1839; Joseph Leslie, Stephen Heard, S. C. Freer, 1840; Lorenzo Rogers, T. D. Blinn, Albert Norton, 1841; I. H. Tacket, S. C. Thomas, 1842; William Patterson, Potter Sullivan, 1843; J. M. Plant, R. M. Bear, 1844; Fortes Morse, William McCormick, 1845; A. L. Miller, Ira Blackford, 1846; A. L. Miller, D. M. Stever, 1847; John Graham, E. T. Wheeler, 1848; John Graham, B. F. Langdon, 1849; William Monks, H. M. Chamberlain, 1850; William Monks, Stephen Hubbard, 1851; J. K. Hallock, W. P. Bignell, 1852; J. K. Hallock, T. S. Bennett, 1853; W. C. Henderson, G. W. Staples, 1854; R. M. Bear, James Gilmore, 1855; Jonathan Whitely, S. S. Stuntz, 1856; Jonathan Whitely, A. J. Merchant, 1857; Allen Fouts, A. J. Merchant, 1858; Isaiah Lane, W. H. Mossman, 1859; J. H. Tagg, W. H. Mossman, 1860; J. H. Tagg, 1861; D. M. Rogers, 1862; J. C. Sullivan, 1863–64–65; Frank Brown, 1866–67; G. Dunmire, 1868–69; N. H. Holmes, 1870–71; Henry Sims, 1872; Ira D. Darling, 1873–74–75; A. R. Rich, 1876; W. H. Mossman, 1877–78–79; W. W. Painter, 1880–81–82; Francis H. Beck, 1883. The present membership of the church is 136.

The First Presbyterian Church at Conneautville was organized with nine members by Rev. Peter Hassinger, October 31, 1835. John Craven was the first Elder elected. The congregation was supplied by Rev. R. Lewis, Rev. D. Waggoner and others until October 4, 1843, when Rev. J. W. Dickey was ordained and installed the first pastor in connection with Harmonsburg and Evansburg, serving until 1847. From 1848 to 1850 Rev. L. P. Bates supplied Conneautville and Harmonsburg, and a little later Rev. James Coulter was supply. Rev. George W. Zahniser was installed pastor of Conneautville September 7, 1853, and was released April 13, 1859. Rev. N. S. Lowrie became pastor October 23, 1863; Rev. R. L. Stewart was installed July 6, 1869, and was dismissed in December, 1872; Rev. M. D. A. Steen was installed June 5, 1873; Rev. G. W. Zahniser was supply for one year commencing July 1, 1875, and Rev. W. W. McKinney, the present pastor, was installed May 22, 1877. For eleven years the congregation was divided into two branches, but they were re-united in 1865. The first church was a frame, erected in 1838 on the southwest corner of Washington and Locust Streets. After the division the New School built a church on High Street, used until destroyed by fire in 1867. The present edifice, which has a seating capacity of 400, was dedicated June 14, 1871. It is a handsome brick structure, with stone window-caps and corners and spire 140 feet high, and cost in construction $17,000. The present membership is large. The present session consists of Alexander P. Foster, installed March 6, 1859, Charles S. Booth, Moses W. Oliver, Jr., installed April 8, 1877, and Robert Montgomery, installed January 14, 1883. Past Elders have been: George G. Foster, Prosper A. Booth, John Craven, Moses W. Oliver, John T. Hubbard, William Borden, Howell Powell and Comfort Hamilton.

The First Universalist Church of Conneautville was organized May 13, 1843. It started with nineteen members, including Charles Rich, S. G. Krick, Mary A. Krick, William Walker, Sallie Walker, Freedom Lord, Jr., Louisa Lord, Thomas Slayton, Elvira Slayton, H. S. Sweet, Wicks Parker, B. F. Hitchcock and Aurelia M. Hitchcock. Early meetings were held in the old schoolhouse and the Baptist Church. About 1846 the building of a frame church was commenced at the north extremity of Pearl Street. The structure was not com-

pleted until several years later, and is still in use. Rev. B. F. Hitchcock was the founder. His ministerial successors have been: Revs. Ammi Bond, C. L. Shipman, H. C. Canfield, W. S. Bacon, I. K. Richardson, J. H. Campbell, L. F. Porter, J. G. Porter, H. M. Merrill, J. S. Gladhill and C. L. Shipman. This society purchased the first church bell in the village and the first organ. Its membership has been greatly depleted by removals, and now numbers about seventy.

St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church held its first meetings in the barn of Thomas Henrietta in 1850. Services were held in private houses until the early purchase of a small frame schoolhouse in the south part of the village, where they were conducted until the purchase of the academy about 1871, at the north end of Washington Street, where services are now held. The congregation was attended for many years from Crossingville by Fathers Quinn, Smith and O'Branagan. The resident priests have since been: Revs. James Kearney, Snively, Michael Tracy, Martin Meagher, John Donnelly, Patrick McGovern and John J. Ruddy. The last-named became pastor in February, 1878, and still serves. He also officiates at Linesville and in Summit Township. The membership of St. Peter's includes about forty-five families.

Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church is a frame structure erected in 1870 at a cost of $5,000 and consecrated by Rt. Rev. J. B. Kerfoot, of Pittsburgh. Rev. Samuel T. Lord as early as 1850 held occasional services at Conneautville, and several years later regular services were commenced and continued to about 1860, when they were discontinued. About 1868 Rev. S. B. Moore, a missionary, reorganized the parish, and the following vestry was elected: C. B. Power, W. L. Robinson, D. D. Williams, H. A. Brinker and F. M. Robinson. An old Baptist Church on the north side of the Diamond was rented, repaired and occupied until the completion of the present structure. Rev. Moore resigned the rectorship February 1, 1871, and his successors have been: Revs. William Bollard, William J. Miller, John Graham, E. D. Irvine and D. F. Hutchinson. The membership has suffered greatly through removals from this vicinity, and is at present about twenty.

Western Crawford Lodge, F. & A. M., No. 258, was chartered September 1, 1851. The charter officers were: William F. Owen, W. M.; Ammi Bond, S. W.; James Norton, J. W. The present membership is about sixty-five. Meetings are held the first and third Mondays of each month.

Oriental Chapter, R. A. M., No. 187, was granted a charter July 8, 1856. Its charter officers were: William F. Owen, H. P.; Ammi Bond, King; John W. Patton, Scribe. This is the oldest Chapter in Crawford County, and one of the oldest in northwestern Pennsylvania. The membership is about thirty. Regular meetings are held on the third Friday of each month.

Goodwill Lodge, A. O. U. W., No. 49, was instituted at Conneautville with twenty-two members March 24, 1873. William P. Gleason was the first Past Master Workman; J. C. Sturtevant, the first Master Workman. The lodge now numbers eighty members, and meets every Wednesday evening.

Union Council, R. T. of T., No. 8, was instituted with twenty-three members June 4, 1878. Its first officers were: S. H. Gibson, S. C.; Mrs. R. A. Frasier, V. C.; C. B. Stone, Sec.; Charles Landon, Chaplain; John Davenport, Treas.; Orlando Crozier, Herald; Mrs. F. S. Lawrence, Guard; S. F. Lawrence, Sentinel. The membership is about 100, and meetings are held every Tuesday evening.

Conneautville Lodge, K. of H., No. 1,131, was organized with nine members, July 9, 1878. The first officers were: W. H. H. Brown, Dictator; A. L. Power, Vice Dictator; F. R. Nichols, Assistant Dictator; E. T. Montague,

Treasurer; W. W. Power, Financial Reporter; J. G. Leffingwell, Reporter; W. H. Montague, Guard; C. R. Benjamin, Chaplain and Past Dictator; W. C. Oakes, Guardian. The membership is thirty-six, and regular meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

Conneautville Union, E. A. U., was instituted in 1881, and is in a prosperous condition. It holds regular meetings twice a month.

Capt. M. L. Stone Post No. 374, G. A. R., was organized September 14, 1883, with twenty-five members. The following officers were elected: Commander, Capt. J. Bolard; Senior Vice Com., R. D. Leet; Junior Vice Com., O. Crozier; Officer of Day, W. L. Benedict; Adjutant, E. S. Cheney; Quartermaster, W. E. Sanderson; Chaplain, Francis Clow; Sergeant, Albert Stevens; Officer of Guard, A. G. Irish; Sergeant Major, Aaron West; Quartermaster Sergeant, George H. Brown; Guards, R. J. Waldo, A. S. Baker. The post meets on the first and third Friday evenings of each month. The membership has increased to about forty.

BOROUGH OF SPRING.

Spring Borough is located three miles north of Conneautville on Conneaut Creek, in the western part of Spring Township. It is not compactly built, but extends chiefly along Main and Beaver Streets, which intersect at "the center." Its residences are mostly new, neat and handsome, and quite a number are almost palatial in size and beauty. Probably in no other village in the county of similar size will an equal number of fine residences be found. The population of the borough in 1870 was 323, and in 1880, 379. It has since materially increased, and now exceeds 400. The business of the place consists of three dry goods stores, two hardware stores, one boot and shoe, one variety, one millinery, one furniture, one drug and two grocery stores. The Coming Wagon Works were erected in 1883, and give employment to about twenty-five workmen. Brown & Eighmy own and operate a steam saw-mill, and I. T. Welch & Son a steam saw-mill and hoop factory. An extensive tannery has recently been removed to Conneautville. Of lesser industries the village contains a cheese factory, two blacksmith-shops, one shoe-shop, one wagon-shop and one harness shop. One hotel provides for the entertainment of the traveling public, and two physicians are sufficient to attend to the bodily ailments of the community.

Spring is a village of slow but steady growth. The first settlers within the limits of the borough were James Orr and Thomas Ford. It was shortly before the canal was opened that the locality began to assume the appearance of a trading point. Harry Pond opened the first store about 1835. About the same time, or earlier, Collins Hall erected a woolen, fulling and saw-mill. The second saw mill was built by Hawley Dauchey, about forty years ago. The impulse given the village by the canal developed it slowly. During the last fifteen years it has grown more rapidly.

The postoffice was first kept a mile north of the village, but was subsequently removed to Spring Corners, as the place was known until its incorporation as a borough in the spring of 1866. The first election was held March 16, 1866, and the officers then chosen were: Jonathan Sheldon, Burgess; W. C. Booth, W. D. Lefevre, H. West, Jr., E. E. Eighmy, and A. V. Baldwin, Council; F. W. Oliver, Justice of the Peace; F. H. Cook, Constable; Timothy Sturtevant, Assessor; Orrin Baldwin, Jonathan Sheldon, H. P. Knickerbocker, O. F. Sheldon, F. W. Oliver and C. L. Fisher, School Directors; A. M. Baldwin, Judge of Election; G. R. Cook and O. F. Sheldon, Inspectors; and J. B. Bradley, Auditor. The Burgesses subsequently elected have been: C. L. Fisher,

1867; George Hall, 1868; A. K. Stone, 1869; A. F. Crane, 1870–71; E. E. Eighmy, 1872; L. F. McLaughlin, 1873; A. K. Stone, 1874; Levi Lozier, 1875; L. W. Brown, 1876–77; H. C. King, 1878; A. J. Greenfield, 1879; Roswell C. Head, 1880; L. K. Chapman, 1881; L. W. Brown, 1882; M. E. Hall, 1883; Ria Ferguson, 1884.

The schoolhouse is a handsome two-story frame structure, erected in 1880 at a cost of $4,500. It contains four apartments, but three of which are now required. The first schoolhouse was a primitive log structure, which stood on the hill east of the village. When the borough was incorporated it contained a frame one-story schoolhouse in the east part of the village, which was occupied until about 1872, when the Odd Fellows' Hall on Beaver Street was purchased. It was used until the erection of the present commodious school building on the same site.

The village contains three churches. The Christian Church of Springboro dates its origin back to 1825. In or about that year Rev. Asa Morrison organized a large congregation. Among the earliest members were Samuel Whitman, Elisha Bowman, Elan, Daniel and Asa Sturtevant, William Forsythe, Frank and Amos Wells, Orrin Baldwin, and Ebenezer and Lyman Hall. The first meetings were held in the schoolhouse, and about 1845 the present commodious frame building, located on the south side of Cussewago Street, was erected. It was the first religious edifice within the limits of the borough. The membership is about seventy-five. Rev. E. M. Harris is the pastor. His immediate predecessor was Rev. J. G. Bishop, before whom Rev. J. J. Summerbell preached for years. The congregation now numbers about seventy-five members.

Springboro Methodist Episcopal Class was organized in 1828 by Rev. Daniel Ritchie, of Albion Circuit, with five members—Joel Jones and his wife Patty, Mary Cook, Maria Cook and George R. Cook—on the upper floor of Butler's tannery. In 1829 the class was attached to Conneautville Circuit, with which it remained until 1867, when Rev. W. A. P. Eberhart, a local minister, was employed independently by the society. Spring Circuit was organized in 1868, and has had the following pastors: S. L. Wilkinson, 1868; C. W. Foulke, 1869–71; J. B. Wright, 1872–73; J. Abbott, 1874; L. L. Luse, 1875; C. M. Coburn, 1876–78; C. W. Foulke, 1879–81; S. Fidler, 1882–83. The circuit now includes four appointments—Keepville (in Erie County), Beaver Center, Steamburg and Springboro. The meetings of the Springboro Class were held for a year or two in Butler's tannery, then in the schoolhouse for five or six years. Mr. Butler then erected a store-room at the northeast corner of Main and Cussewago Streets, and meetings were held on its second floor until 1864, when the present frame structure, 36x48, was erected on the north side of Cussewago Street, at a cost of $1,200. The membership is now about ninety.

The first Baptist Church of Spring was organized May 25, 1833, by Rev. O. L. Dunfee, of North Shenango, with the following constituent members: Nathaniel Pond, Henry Wait, John Gillett, Liba Woodard, Silas Cooper, Hiram Sheldon, Mary Pond, Polly Wait, Tryphosia Conover, Sybil Woodard, Polly Gleason, Mary Cutler, Ruth Gillett, Jerusha Mann and Sylvia Hammon. Nathaniel Pond was the first Deacon; Silas Cooper, the first Clerk. Elder Adrian Foote, of Meadville, preached occasionally for a few months, when Rev. Levi Fuller was secured as pastor, preaching every other Sunday at $75 per year. Subsequent pastors have been, with dates of commencement of pastorates: Rev. Keith, January, 1836; Benjamin Oviatt, December, 1836; Elder Cady, 1842; William Walden, 1845; Elder Dodge, 1848; J. J. Fuller, 1851;

D. Beacher, 1853; Elisha Nye, 1857; B. C. Hendricks, 1860; P. Griffis, 1862; Wenham Kidder, 1863; M. Barnes, 1865; G. W. Snyder, 1869; C. H. Harvey, 1873; E. C. Farley, 1877; R. Pearse, the present pastor, since 1879. Elders Hall and James Going were also early pastors, but the records do not fix the dates of their ministry. Early services were held in the old hotel, and afterward in the schoolhouse east of town, until the erection of their church in 1853. It was burned May 31, 1880. Work was immediately commenced on a new structure, the corner-stone of which was laid August 26, 1880, and which was dedicated in September, 1882. It is a handsome building, of Gothic structure, 36x55, with chapel 20x32 in the rear. A. J. Gould is the present Clerk. The membership is large.

Spring Valley Lodge, No. 401, I. O. O. F., was organized at Spring Corners, in 1851. It maintained an existence until 1872, then surrendered its charter. The lodge was re-chartered June 4, 1881, with these officers: J. W. Wright, N. G.; W. P. Owen, V. G.; Henry West. Jr., Sec., R. H. Sturtevant, Ass't Sec.; E. C. Farley, Treas. Sheldon's Hall has been leased by the lodge, and in it the other orders of the borough hold their meetings. The membership is sixty, and meetings are held every Friday night.

Aetna Lodge, No. 93, A. O. U. W., was instituted November 8, 1875, with twenty-four members and the following officers: M. W. Oliver, Jr., P. M. W., L. F. McLaughlin, M. W.; M. E. Hall, G. F.; Hiram Morrell, O.; H. B. Burnside, Recorder; L. E. Phelps, Financier; E. E. Eighmy, Receiver; C. M. Sargent, G.; P. W. Reed, I. W.; C. D. Marlow, O. W. Monday evening is the time of meeting. Membership is forty.

Fountain Council, No. 6, R. T. of T., was instituted with forty-two members, May 28, 1878. Its charter officers were: E. E. Eighmy, S. C.; Mrs. R. E. Eighmy, V. C.; J. W. Tucker, P. C.; C. L. Fisher, Chap.; W. J. Ford, Rec. Sec.; George E. Foster, Treas.; C. P. Shoppart, Herald; Mrs. M. A. Eighmy, Dep. Her.; Mrs. Adie O. North, Guard; Uzell North, Sent.; J. W. Greenfield, Med. Ex. The membership now exceeds fifty, and meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Springboro Union, No. 260, E. A. U., was instituted April 6, 1883. Of its initial officers A. K. Stone was President; Mrs. Richard Pearse, V. P.; Mrs. R. G. Tubbs, Sec.; W. D. Wetmore, Treas.; J. F. McCurdy Accountant; Dr. Anson Parsons, Chancellor; and Rev. E. M. Harris, Advocate. Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The membership is about forty.

J. W. Patton Post, G. A. R., was organized in June, 1883. Its first officers were: M. W. Oliver, Com.; Charles Dhrer, V. C.; Edward Prescott, Chap.; Joseph Bowman, Adj.; Irvin Hall, Q. M.; Levi Lozier, O. of D.; Lafayette Prusia, O. of G.; William Ross, Commissary; Dr. Anson Parsons, Surgeon. The membership is now thirty-nine and regular meetings are held each alternate Saturday.

CHAPTER XXIV.

STEUBEN TOWNSHIP.

STEUBEN TOWNSHIP—ERECTION—BOUNDARIES—LANDS—EARLY SETTLERS—LUMBERING—EARLY MILLS—TRYONVILLE—PROPOSED RAILROAD—CLAPPVILLE—TRYONVILLE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
BOROUGH OF TOWNVILLE—INCORPORATION—OFFICERS—POPULATION—BUSINESS INTERESTS—NAME—EARLY RESIDENTS—SCHOOLS—PRESS—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS—SOCIETIES.

STEUBEN in organization is the most recent of the eastern townships. It was formed in 1850 or 1851 from parts of Troy and Athens. Except for one tract of 500 acres, which projects above the northern line, the township would in shape approximate a rectangle, the length of which is twice or thrice its width. Athens lies to the north of it, Rome and Oil Creek on the east, Troy on the south and Randolph and Richmond on the west. The main portion is within the Seventh Donation District. Along the east line are four Holland tracts, and between them and the Donation lands a narrow strip or gore. The land of Steuben embraced within the Seventh Donation District consists of twenty-eight 200-acre tracts, seven 300-acre tracts and seven and two fractions of 500-acre tracts. The 200-acre tracts were drawn by private soldiers, the larger ones by commissioned officers. Muddy Creek, flowing east and northward, drains the western part, while Oil Creek courses southward through the eastern. Between the two, along the tributaries of the latter, is some lowland, too wet for tillage. The assessed acreage of the township is 14,394, of which 3,086 acres were in 1882 unseated.

The land has been settled very slowly. Three-quarters of a century have elapsed since settlement began, but there are yet a number of tracts which have not been reduced to purposes of agriculture. Dennis Carrol is reputed to have dwelt in the eastern part as early as 1808, and for a score of years to have been its sole occupant. He however often moved from place to place, and was also an early settler of Rome. His cabin was built on the L. B. Preston place, 500 acres, Tract 134, and here he remained until his wife died, when he removed to near Erie City.

Philip Navy, a native born German, in 1821 came from Lancaster County to Tract 1354, in the northwestern part of the township. He had exchanged his house and lot at Lancaster for the property, and learned on his arrival that he had paid for the land at the rate of $8 per acre, when it was worth scarcely one-fourth that amount. He was obliged to leave his family at Newtontown, Troy Township, for two weeks, while he cut a road through to his property and erected a cabin. No one was then living within a radius of six miles of his home. He was a cabinet-maker by trade, but his only vocation here was preparing the ground and tilling the soil. Oak and chestnut grew on his farm, and these were not felled, only girdled. The small brush and trees were cleared away, and crops planted amid the bare skeletons of the trees. In beech and maple land, owing to the tenacity of life of these trees girdling was impracticable. One day, when ill and without meat, Mr. Navy employed Samuel Winton to hunt for him a day for $1. The huntsman came, killed five

deer and returned home seven miles on the same day. Mr. Navy died about 1824.

In 1822 a settlement was made in the vicinity of Townville. John Baker, Zephaniah Kingsley, George Northum and Silas Mason came that year and settled in one locality. The latter two settled on Tract 1371, just west of Townville; Northum, on the I. D. Gillet place; Mason, on the Jeremiah Pond farm. Both came from Fort Ann, N. Y. A few years later Northum moved to Erie County, near the lake, and Mason to Ohio. John Baker settled in the northwest corner of Tract 125, just north of Townville. He was a Baptist, and remained on the farm till death, leaving eight sons and one daughter. His son Casper yet occupies the farm. The Kingsleys settled within the present corporate limits of Townville. Harvey Hull settled about the same time at Townville. Walter Wood, from Vermont, came to Randolph Township prior to 1824, soon after which year he married the widow of Philip Navy, and after a brief residence on the farm removed with the family to near Centreville.

David and James Tryon, brothers, originally from Litchfield, Conn., about 1828 removed to the site of Tryonville from Rome Township, where, about three-fourths of a mile below Centreville, they had been operating a fulling and carding-mill. They came with the intention of lumbering, and had purchased two 500-acre tracts, 136 and 137, and some adjoining land well forested with pine. They made the first improvement of note in this portion of Steuben, and at one time had three saw-mills in operation on their land here. They are yet living near Tryonville. James R. Maginnis, son of William Maginnis, of Troy Township, in 1829 settled with his family just east of Tryonville Station. Reuben Phillips, in 1831 or 1832, emigrated from Waterloo, N. Y., and settled on Tract 124 above Townville, where he remained engaged in agriculture through life. He was of Quaker extraction, and died leaving three sons and two daughters.

The above are all the settlers known to have founded homes within the bounds of Steuben prior to 1831. Among the next to arrive were the Winstons, Samuel and John Gillet, George Pond, Ebenezer Smith, Daniel Hopkins, James Bly, Richard Hanna and Jeremiah Palmenter. Most of these remained in the township through life, and now have lineal descendants here. Accessions have constantly been made to the population to the present time. In 1860 Steuben contained 898 inhabitants; in 1870, 1,020; in 1880, 782.

Lumbering was the chief vocation of the early settlers, and lumber exportation continued uninterruptedly until the development of the oil regions created a home demand for it. Pine grew in abundance in early times. It was the only product in demand. The lumber had a value here of from $4 to $8 per 1,000 feet, and about twice that amount at Pittsburgh, the cost of rafting and loss suffered from the freshets equaling the original cost of the lumber. Many pine shingles were also made and shipped to Pittsburgh, where they commanded a price of about $1 a thousand. The shingles were at that date split out and shaved by hand. An average day's work for a shingle maker was 1,500. Like the lumber they were conveyed to Oil Creek and rafted down the stream to the markets on the river below. The right of non-resident owners to the timber on their lands was not held in very high respect and many of the early lumbermen had no scruples in cutting and sawing the pine wherever it could be conveniently found, unless the owner was personally present to oppose such a procedure. The pine has now nearly disappeared, and the hemlock remaining is rapidly being converted into lumber. Its bark is sold to considerable profit at the Titusville Extract Works. The stream of

people brought to Titusville during the palmy days of oil excitement created a considerable home demand for lumber in the erection of buildings and derricks. The rapid growth of Titusville materially benefitted the rural districts of Steuben, as well as other townships, by the demand at high prices of vegetables and grain. The manufacture of black salts was another source of income to the pioneers. Immense quantities of elm, with less of ash, beech, and maple, were felled and burned that the ashes might be leeched and the lye evaporated into black salts, which commanded a price of $2.50 per 100 pounds at Meadville and other places, where it was refined into pearl ash, used by the settlers as a substitute for soda. The presence of oil in Oil Creek Valley induced the purchase of land in considerable quantity in the eastern part of Steuben by speculating oil companies at a price far above its value for agricultural purposes. The title to much of this land is still held by the speculators in petroleum. Wells were drilled but proved wholly unproductive.

No very early schools were held in Steuben. The earliest was probably kept within the bounds of Townville Borough. Several early saw-mills were built on Muddy Creek at Townville. About a half mile below the village a grist-mill was erected on Muddy Creek by Ebenezer Smith, but a few years later it was destroyed by fire and not rebuilt.

Tryonville is a village in the eastern part, containing a population of perhaps 150. The first settlement here was made by the Tryons. They kept a few groceries on hand for the accommodation of their mill hands, but the first considerable stock of merchandise was brought by E. B. Lee about 1848. The first tavern stand was kept by Lyman Jones. James Tryon kept the first school. The mills which formerly flourished here and gave origin to the village have now disappeared. The village straggles out to considerable length on either side of Oil Creek and besides its several stores has the usual complement of small industrial shops incident to such a place. Tryonville Station is located about a half mile to the northeast. Here the Union & Titusville Railroad branches from the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia, both continuing side by side up Oil Creek Valley, through the township. Along the railroad near the station quite a little hamlet has sprung into existence, where lumbering is actively carried on.

As early as 1872 the Pennsylvania Petroleum Railroad graded a road-bed northwestwardly through the township. The track was also commenced, when operations were permanently suspended. Every year since the construction of the road-bed the rumor has gained currency among the people in this locality that the road was about to be finished, and hopes of its ultimate completion are still entertained by a number.

Clappville is a hamlet on the route of the proposed road, and about a mile southwest from Tryonville. It consists of a little store, eight or ten dwellings and a thriving saw-mill. Ralph Clapp, a Methodist minister, settled here about 1840. He started a saw-mill, but remained only a few years. John Matthews came about the same time. The present mill was built by Stafford Radure.

Tryonville Methodist Episcopal Church, the only religious society in the township, was organized in 1833. Its original membership was small, including James Tryon and wife, David Tryon and wife, and Mrs. Harriet Matthews. James Tryon, who was chiefly instrumental in effecting the organization, was its leader forty years, the present leader, David Titus, being his only successor. Services were held in the schoolhouse until 1870, when the present church edifice was erected. It is a well finished frame structure about 34x54 in size, and cost in its erection about $7,000. The membership is now about twenty-

five. This appointment is now a part of Hydetown Circuit; it was formerly attached to Titusville Circuit.

BOROUGH OF TOWNVILLE.

Townville Borough was incorporated in 1867, and its first officers, who were elected October 8 of that year, were as follows: W. R. King, Burgess; Horace C. Rounds, Thomas Shonts, Salmon Phillips, Byron Smith and John Hawthorn, Council; A. F. Titus, Constable; H. C. Birchard, Clerk and Secretary. Mr. King was re elected Burgess in 1868, and his successors have been: C. Delamater, 1869–70; W. R. King, 1871–72; G. R. Hoyt, 1873; C. Delamater, 1874; Thomas Shonts, 1875; John F. Wykoff, 1876–77; John Fetterman, 1878; Charles Stewart, 1879; S. N. Atkins, 1880, H. A. Drake, 1881; B. S. Childs, 1882; T. Radle, 1883; B. S. Childs, 1884. The borough is irregular in outline, and situated in the southwest part of Steuben Township on the south side of Muddy Creek. Its population in 1870 was 280. By an error it was by the census of 1880 accredited with 610 inhabitants. The population is now between 370 and 380, and it was no greater in 1880. Main Street, the principal thoroughfare, extending northwest and southeast, is lined with dwelling-houses for a distance of almost a mile. It is intersected in the southeast part of the village by Fremont Street, and the business of the place clusters near the intersection. Townville contains three dry goods or general stores, two drug and hardware stores, one furniture, one clothing, one tin and two millinery stores, one water saw-mill, two steam saw-mills, one of which does an extensive planing business, one grist-mill, one bowl factory, one cheese factory, one jelly factory, a broom handle factory, a tannery, three large carriage shops, one harness, one blacksmith, one gun and two shoe shops, one hotel, three physicians, one dentist, four churches, three societies, a newspaper and a handsome school building.

The village was founded by Noah Town, who in 1824 emigrated from Granville, N. Y., to the wilderness, in what is now the eastern part of Randolph Township, whence three years later he moved to Meadville, and in 1831 came to what is now Townville. He was by faith a Congregationalist. He cleared a farm and erected the first saw-mill in this locality on Muddy Creek about 1833, transporting a considerable amount of lumber by water to Pittsburgh by way of Oil Creek, whither he teamed it. Mr. Town also kept the first store in the village. He afterward removed to Erie, where he died. Zephaniah Kingsley had in 1822 or 1823 come with his three sons, Zephaniah, Calvin and Ransom, from Fort Ann, Washington Co., N. Y., and settled on Tract 1370, in the western part of the present village. This region was then densely forested, and it was years before the first road was laid out. Ransom Kingsley built a saw-mill on Muddy Creek about the same time Noah Town constructed one. Mr. Kingsley was also the first Postmaster; the office was called "Kingsley's." Harvey Hull moved in soon after. John Baker erected a third saw-mill on Muddy Creek. The place settled slowly, and in 1849 contained about eight dwellings. Its settlers then included Noah Town, engaged in mercantile business; Joseph and Lyman Town, his sons, engaged in farming; Ransom Kingsley; Harvey Hull, a farmer; Amby Higby, who had a cabinet shop; James Boyles, a carpenter; William Boyles, a shoe-maker; Thomas Boyles, a painter; and F. W. Post, a blacksmith. Dr. Adams, the first resident physician, came in soon after and remained several years. A. Hamlin started and has ever since operated the only tannery, and Lewis Wood about 1850 erected the steam grist-mill. The country around was then largely covered with timber, and various mills and factories of wooden wares have since been operated.

The schoolhouse was erected about 1860 by the Township Directors, the citizens of the village adding the second floor for a public hall. The necessity for greater school accommodations has converted this upper apartment into a schoolroom. A school is also conducted under the auspices of the Episcopal Church, the building for which was commenced in 1878, and is not yet quite completed.

The Townville *Weekly News* was started in the spring of 1881 by J. L. Rohr, its present editor and publisher. The paper is a live local sheet, and has received the support of the community. In politics it is Independent.

As nearly as can be ascertained the Methodist Class at Townville was organized in 1845. J. A. Pond, Harvey Hull and Gamaliel Phillips were of the original class. Soon after Mr. Langworthy, Dr. William Nason and Dr. Luther Pearse were prominent members. Meetings were held in the schoolhouse until about 1849, when a frame church was erected on the northeast side of Main Street. It was occupied until 1877, when the present handsome and commodious structure, 40x60, was erected on the opposite side of the street at a cost of $5,000. The society now numbers about 100 members. It was formerly attached to Saegertown Circuit, but the circuit of Townville was organized in 1862, and it has since been filled by the following ministers: R. Gray, 1862–63; M. Smith, 1864–65; J. Shields, 1866; A. L. Miller, 1867–68; J. W. Blaisdell, 1869–71; J. Eckels, 1872–74; D. W. Wampler, 1875; J. F. Perry, 1876–77; D. S. Steadman, 1878–80; J. S. Albertson, 1881; M. V. Stone, 1882–83. The circuit includes four appointments, Townville, Guy's Mills, Mount Hope, in Randolph Township, and Troy Center.

Troy Baptist Church was organized in the Kingsley Schoolhouse within the present borough limits of Townville, October 28, 1836. Its earliest membership included Zephaniah Kingsley, Samuel B. Gillet, Abraham Winston, Nelson Winston, Daniel Lamb, William Lamb, Ransom Kingsley (the first Clerk), Elder Otis L. Durfee, William Gillet, Samuel N. Frost, Ezra Frost and a number of female members. Its pastors were: Elders William Lamb, Dude and Otis Durfee. The society disbanded about 1843. Steuben Baptist Church was constituted February 13, 1851, including in its constituent membership about half of those of the old Troy Church. The church edifice was erected in 1851–52, at a cost of $1,000. It is a neat frame structure located in the extreme western corner of the borough. The pastors have been: Elders William Lamb, 1851–52: W. B. Bradford, 1853–54; William Lamb, 1855–56; Hubbard, 1857; C. W. Drake, 1858; William Lamb, 1859–61; Cyrus Shreve, 1862; Charles W. Snyder, 1863–67; Elder Morris, 1868; John Owens, 1869–70; C. W. Drake, 1871–75; D. J. Williams, 1876; C. T. Jack, 1877–79; L. L. Shearer, 1880–81; D. H. Dennison, 1882–84. The name was changed in 1881 to the Townville First Baptist Church. The membership is about 130.

Calvary Church, Protestant Episcopal, was organized by Rev. Henry Fitch April 8, 1867, with nine members: Peter and Eliza A. Rose, Miss Mary A. Rose, W. S. Rose, S. D. and Mary L. Guion, Miss Mary Myers, Miss Emily and Miss Ann B. Rose. The first vestry consisted of: Peter Rose, Warden; G. R. Hoyt; Edwin Kingsley, S. F. Radle; J. F. Stevens, George Brice and C. Phillips. Of these, only Mr. Rose was a communicant member. The church building was commenced in 1867 and was completed and consecrated in 1873. It cost, including lot and bell, $5,000. Rev. S. T. Lord, of Meadville, held the first Episcopal service in the village January 29, 1862. Rev. Henry Fitch was rector in 1867, and the same year was succeeded by Rev. William S. Hayward. Rev. S. B. Moore then officiated at irregular intervals until 1870, when Rev. G. C. Rofter, of Meadville, held services once a month. Rev. W.

G. W. Lewis, of Meadville, ministered from 1871 to 1873, then Rev. Byllsby, of the same city, and Dr. Purdon, of Titusville, occasionally, followed by W. G. W. Lewis until 1877. Rev. D. I. Edwards, of Meadville, preached from 1877 to 1880, followed by Rev. Thomas A. Stevenson, of Corry, until 1881. Occasional services were then conducted until September, 1883, when Rev. John P. Taylor, of Corry, the present clergyman, took charge. The membership is twenty-one.

A Congregational Church was a former prominent religious institution of the village. Noah Town and his family, Ebenezer Harris, Harvey Coburn, Esack Coburn, Hezekiah Wadsworth and L. L. Lamb were early members. A church edifice was reared about 1845, but the congregation has since been greatly reduced in membership, and regular meetings were long ago discontinued.

Townville Lodge, No. 929, I. O. O. F., was chartered February 12, 1876, and instituted March 23, following, with ten members. It charter officers were: A. B. Edson, N. G.; Bemus Buckley, V. G.; R. H. Smith, Secretary; A. R. Fross, Assistant Secretary; Thomas Shouts, Treasurer. The membership is now ninety-six, and meetings are held every Friday evening.

Sadie Rebekah Lodge, No. 129, I. O. O. F., was chartered December 22, 1881. Its first officers were: Mrs. Sade Stevens, N. G.; Mrs. F. T. Radle, V. G.; Mrs. W. P. Higby, Secretary; Mrs. N. E. Stevens, Assistant Secretary; Mrs. C. Stewart, Treasurer. The membership is now forty-six, and meetings are held each alternate Tuesday evening.

William J. Gleason Post, No. 96, G. A. R., was instituted April 18, 1878, with twenty-three members. Its first officers were: A. B. Edson, C.; James F. Stevens, Sr. V. C.; William H. Blair, Jr. V. C.; H. A. Drake, O. of D.; A. E. Rose, Chaplain; Byron Smith, Surg.; A. R. Fross, Q. M.; L. J. Childs, O. G. The membership is now forty-seven, and meetings are held on the second Monday of each month.

Steuben Council, No. 24, R. T. of T., was instituted with fifteen members December 11, 1878. Its first officers were: L. D. Barton, S. C.; John Fetterman, V. C.; James Doughty, P. C.; A. L. Baker, Chaplain; V. M. Hunter, Rec. Sec.; Miss Hallie Steadman, Fin. Sec.; Charles Stewart, Treas.; H. A. Lamb, Her.; Mrs. M. A. Barton, Dep. Her.; Mrs. V. D. Fetterman, Guard; Lewis Wood, Sent.; Byron Smith, Med. Ex. The membership is twenty-three, and meetings are held each alternate Tuesday.

CHAPTER XXV.

SUMMERHILL TOWNSHIP.

BOUNDARIES—ORGANIZATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—PIONEERS—LAND TITLES—DISTILLERIES—MILLS—EARLY SCHOOL—DICKSONBURG—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS—SOCIETY.

SUMMERHILL is an interior township in the northwestern part of the county, and is bounded on the north by Spring, on the east by Hayfield, on the south by Summit, and on the west by Conneaut. As organized in 1829, it included, besides its present territory, the northern half of Summit. By act of Assembly approved April 23, 1829, the cabin of Benjamin Bearfield was made the

place for holding elections. The township is now six miles long east and west, and four north and south. Conneaut Creek, with its numerous tributaries flowing northward, waters the central and western portions, while in th eeast is a small stream flowing eastward, and in the southeast Pine Run, a tributary of Conneaut Lake, rises and flows south into the Cussewago. The old Beaver and Erie Canal crossed Summerhill, through the valley of Conneaut Creek. The soil is a clay except in the flats of the Conneaut, where it is a rich loam. It is adapted either to grain raising or to grazing. The land is rolling in the western part and level in the eastern, and springs are abundant. White oak, maple, sugar, hickory, ash and chestnut are the principal kinds of timber. The population in 1850 was 1,160; in 1860, 1, 237; in 1870, 1,232; in 1880, 1,202.

The good quality of the soil and the early date of settlement are attested by the fact that twenty of the thirty-six tracts were patented by individuals before the land companies were locating claims. These individual tracts are situated mostly in the valley of Conneaut Creek, where, consequently, the first settlements in the township were made.

James McDowell is reputed the pioneer settler, coming about 1796 or 1797. He was of Scotch extraction, came from the region of the Susquehanna, and remained a life-long resident on his farm on the Conneaut, below Dicksonburg. He had five sons and two daughters, and many of their descendants are yet in the township. Daniel Myers came from the same locality about the same time and settled on the adjoining tract, near the center of the township, surveyed in the name of A. Power. He was killed while on his way home from Harmonsburg by being thrown from his horse. John Sterling, an old neighbor, soon followed to the new country, and his sons, James, Washington and Andrew became well-known property-holders. James Fetterman settled on the John Power tract, about one and a half miles southeast from Conneautville, where he remained till death in old age and where his descendants now reside. He at one time owned 1,100 acres of land. He came a young, unmarried man, and in 1798 wedded Betsy McDowell; this was the first marriage in the township.

Besides the above the following, with their families, were among the earliest settlers: Neal McKay, John McTier, Thomas Proctor, Robert McCoy, James McMillan, Daniel McMillan, Josiah McNamara, Samuel Gowdy, James Christy, Jacob Lefevre, James Scott, John Fulwiler, Benjamin Bearfield, John Dearborn, Robert Nelson and Peter and Jacob Gevin. Neal McKay was a weaver by occupation and an early Justice of the Peace in the township. His son, Robert, was a Captain of militia in 1812, and served at Erie during the building of Perry's fleet. John McTier was a stone mason by trade, and when hewed-log-houses superseded round-log-cabins, his services in building stone chimneys made him a valuable citizen to the community. He was killed in the spring of 1826 while riding, during a terrific wind storm, by a large oak tree, which fell upon him. James, William and John Proctor, sons of Robert, were well known pioneers. Robert McCoy immigrated prior to 1798; his cabin stood about a half mile east of Conneautville, and his death occurred about 1800. His was the first burial in the McDowell Cemetery. The McMillans located in the northeastern part of the township. Daniel was killed, while cutting a tree for raccoons, by the fall of a limb. Josiah McNamara built the first tannery of the township in 1800. A few years later he removed to Mead Township. Samuel Gowdy came a single man to the southwest corner of what is now the township, where he patented a tract. Soon after he married Betsy Gilliland. He was quite an accession to the early settlements, for he manu-

factured the wooden plows then in use. Mr. Gowdy was Colonel of militia in 1812, and commanded his regiment at Erie during the construction of Perry's fleet. He died on the farm he settled. James Christy settled about a mile southeast from Conneautville, and remained there through life. Jacob Lefevre was both farmer and tanner, residing near Conneautville. John Fulwiler dwelt also in that vicinity; his cabin stood on what is now the Conneautville fair ground. Benjamin Bearfield was a distiller by trade. He lived about a mile northeast from Dicksonburg, and afterward moved West. John Dearborn located on the F. Johnston tract in the east part of the township, where he died and where his descendants still live. Robert Nelson was an early settler near Conneautville. Peter and Jacob Gevin were brothers; the former lived near the center of the township.

The record of the early settlement of the Pennsylvania Population Company's land, up to 1812, is herewith given: Tract 639, wholly unsold; 640, unsold, a small improvement made in 1798 and 1799, by a settler under the company, and then given up, afterward intruded on, but soon abandoned; 641, unsold, entered upon same as 640; 642, William Conley, 100 acres, settlement completed; 643, John McDowell, November 9, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; 644, John Beatty, September 7, 1796, 150 acres, settled under contract; 688, John Quick, December 20, 1797, 200 acres, settlement completed under contract; 699, Andrew Helfer, November 7, 1797, 200 acres, deed delivered to Helfer October 8, 1808; 700, Andrew Helfer, 200 acres, settled under contract; 713, Shubal Luce, September 23, 1797, 100 acres, settled under contract; same tract, James McNamara, March 24, 1804, 200 acres, deed granted McNamara.

The Holland Land Company's tracts, six in number, in the eastern part of the township, were first settled under contract by the following persons, the date of contract and amount of land being given: Tract 18, Joshua Pennel and Jacob Osborne, 100 acres, August 9, 1799, deed executed to Pennel November 16, 1805; Tract 22, Michael Seely, 150 acres, October 25, 1798, forfeited; Tract 26, George Friedley, September 28, 1799; Tract 30, Alexander Freeman, 150 acres, August 16, 1799, deed executed January 15, 1807; Tract 34, Alexander Freeman, 150 acres, August 16, 1799, deed executed January 15, 1807; Tract 38, Frederick Hickernell, 150 acres, August 18, 1799, deed executed January 8, 1813.

Distilleries were quite common among the pioneers, and the products of the still, after a large local demand was supplied, were sent to a foreign market. James Fetterman built the first distillery in what is now Summerhill, and John McDowell, the second. The latter after operating the still for several years, abandoned the business from a religious conviction of the wrong in manufacturing intoxicating liquors. So general was the custom of using whisky in those days that scruples of that kind seldom occurred. Jacob Myers and others also manufactured the ardent fluid.

John and Michael Winger built the first saw-mill. It stood on Conneaut Creek and was erected in 1820. George Dickson operated an early saw-mill on Conneaut Creek; he also owned a grist-mill at Dicksonburg. Lumbering was carried on extensively during the days of the canal. Charles Beebe now operates a saw-mill on Conneaut Creek and W. R. McGill owns a steam-mill in the eastern part of the township. James Beatty erected a carding machine about a mile south of Dicksonburg in 1828.

The primitive schoolhouse was a little log structure which stood on the present farm of W. C. Sterling about a half mile north of Dicksonburg. It was built about 1812, and its early teachers were: Triphosa Rugg, Samuel

Steele and Whately Barrett. It was used for about six years as a temple of education.

Dicksonburg is a little village located in the southern part of the township and containing about fifteen dwellings, a store, school, blacksmith shop, Methodist Church and a large grist-mill owned by J. B. McDowell. The place was on the old Beaver & Erie Canal and in early times was known as McDowell's Postoffice. John Thompson and Thomas Proctor were early merchants. George Dickson built the first grist-mill. Joseph McCray erected the present one.

The Dicksonburg Methodist Episcopal Church is the oldest in the northwestern part of the county. In May, 1801, the Baltimore Methodist Episcopal Conference sent Rev. James Quinn as circuit preacher to the Pittsburgh District to form a circuit extending from Lake Erie to the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers, to be known as Erie Circuit. Mr. Quinn entered upon his itineracy with zeal, but for some reason was removed and Rev. Joseph Shackelford sent to fill out the remainder of the year. In the spring of 1802 he organized a class at the house of James McDowell in what is now Summerhill Township. James McDowell and wife, George Nelson and wife and Mrs. Johnson were its earliest members. Erie Circuit soon contained twenty appointments, requiring the minister to travel 400 miles every four weeks to fill them. The ministers of Erie Circuit until 1825 were as follows: James Quinn and J. A. Shackelford, 1801; J. Cullison, 1802; Noah Fidler, 1803; A. Hemphill, 1804; David Best and J. A. Shackelford, 1805; R. R. Roberts and J. Watts, 1806; C. Reynolds, A. Daniels and T. Divers, 1807; Job Guest and W. Butler, 1808; J. Charles, J. Hanson and J. Decellum, 1809; J. Monroe, 1810; J. Watts and J. Ewing, 1811; J. Watts, J. Gorwell and J. Graham, 1812; A. Robinson, 1813; J. Solomon and J. Graham, 1814; R. C. Hatton, 1815; C. Godard and J. P. Kent, 1816; J. P. Kent and Ira Eddy, 1817; D. D. Davidson and S. Adams, 1818; P. Green, 1819; Ira Eddy and Charles Elliott, 1820; Ezra Booth and C. Trescott, 1821; W. H. Collins, 1822; J. Summerville, 1823; J. P. Kent, 1824; N. Reeder and Z. Ragen, 1825. McDowell's Class was probably attached to Meadville Circuit formed in 1826. In July, 1833, Summerhill Circuit, of Meadville District, was formed. This circuit comprised the following classes: Conneautville, McDowell's, Harmonsburg, Spring, Pierpont, Huntley's, Penn Line, Frey's, Moorehouse, Cussewago, Hickernells, Thomas, Holton's and Smith's. Theodore Stowe and Reuben Peck were the ministers. Each minister held service at each appointment once in four weeks, many of the services being held on week days. The distance traveled in making the round was about 150 miles. The journey was performed on horseback, the Bible, hymn-book and other volumes were carried in the saddle bags, and much of the study and preparation for services was made at places of entertainment and while going from one appointment to another. In 1834 the name of Summerhill Circuit was changed to Harmonsburg, and to that circuit McDowell's or Dicksonburg Class now belongs. Meetings were held for many years in the cabins of the members; afterward in schoolhouses until the church was built. The membership is now about sixty.

In the extreme northeast corner of the township is the Smith Methodist Episcopal Church. A class was organized here as early as 1825, and its leading members were: Nelson Smith, a local preacher, Edmund Greenlee, Andreas Bagley, Daniel Bagley and Elisha Curtis. For many years and until the erection of the present frame building about thirty years ago, meetings were held in an old log schoolhouse. This was formerly a large society. It is now a part of Harmonsburg Circuit and has a membership of about forty.

Close to the western line of Summerhill, in the western part of Tract 713, is an Evangelical Association Church, erected in 1871 at a cost of $1,800. The class was organized with twenty-five members by Rev. James Crossman, the first pastor, in 1863. Meetings were held in a schoolhouse situated in the eastern part of Conneaut Township, until the erection of the present church edifice. Among the first members were: Minor Walton, Balser Gehr, Mrs. Lawrence, E. Stevens and Nathan Stevens. The membership is now about forty and Rev. Vogt is the Pastor. The class constitutes a part of Crawford Circuit.

Dicksonburg Council, No. 14, R. T. of T., organized October 7, 1878, with sixteen members and the following officers: F. L. Lord, S. C.; J. R. Barnes, V. C.; Horace Hammon, P. C.; Volney Johnson, Chaplain; George Procter, Secretary; William Shaw, Treasurer; Miss Libbie Barnes, Herald; R. C. Procter, Guard; Mr. Gevin, Sentinel; Dr. Frazier, Medical Examiner. The membership is now forty-five and meetings are held each alternate Friday evening.

CHAPTER XXVI.

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP.

BOUNDARIES—FORMATION—POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—FIRST SETTLEMENTS—LAND TITLES—PIONEERS—CONNEAUT LAKE—CEMETERIES—EARLY METHODIST ORGANIZATION—CANAL—PEAT AND MARL—MILLS—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS—HARMONSBURG—CHURCHES—LODGES.

SUMMIT is an interior township in the western part of the county, and is bounded on the north by Summerhill, on the east by Hayfield and Vernon, on the south by Sadsbury and on the west by Pine and Conneaut. It is six miles in length and four in width, and contains 14,717 taxable acres. The township was formed in 1841 by act of Assembly, during the term of M. B. Lowry in the Legislature. Mr. Lowry was a resident of Harmonsburg, which was then on the northern confines of Sadsbury, and the citizens of the village were obliged to attend elections at Evansburg. For the convenience of his neighbors, Mr. Lowry secured the passage of the act for the erection of Summit, the northern half being taken from Summerhill and the southern half from Sadsbury. The title Summit was adopted in consequence of the elevated land within its limits. From 1800 to 1829 the two western tiers of tracts were part of Conneaut, and the balance of the land was included within the bounds of Sadsbury. The population in 1850 was 1,074; in 1860, 1,147; in 1870, 1,034; in 1880, 1,058.

The surface is almost level, and for grain there is no better land in the county. In early times it was somewhat wet in the southern part. A great variety of timber covered the surface. In the southern part was hemlock, on ground a little higher, pine, and still farther north oak, beech, sugar maple, sycamore, cherry and other kinds. Conneaut Inlet with its branches drain the eastern part, entering Conneaut Lake in the southeast part of the township. Conneaut Creek rises in the western part and flows northeasterly.

The first portion of the township occupied was the tract at the mouth of Conneaut Inlet. This tract was located by Alexander Power, in 1795, while

engaged with a surveying party in the western part of this county. He soon after settled here, and in 1798 erected a saw-mill on the inlet, which is said to have been the first mill built in Crawford County west of French Creek. Mr. Power soon after removed to the site of Conneautville.

Most of the thirty-six tracts of the township were located by individuals. Five along the eastern line became the property of the Holland Land Company, and seven in the southwest corner, of the Pennsylvania Population Company. The former company made contracts for the settlement of its land as follows: Tract 41, William Hope, 150 acres, May 31, 1797; Tract 45, Joseph Fleming, 100 acres, May 31, 1797, deed executed to David Gehr, assignee; Tract 49, William Burns, 150 acres, November 20, 1799, assigned to Robert Burns; Tract 55, William McClenachan, 401 acres, August 27, 1798, deeds executed to Alexander W. Foster and William Cook, assignees. None of these are remembered as residents of the township except the Burnses, who were rugged frontiersmen and soon left the county.

The early settlement of Population tracts were more permanent. The records of the company in 1812 made the following exhibit: 200 acres of Tract 744, purchased by Jacob Gehr, under contract of September 23, 1797, settled and deed granted; 100 acres of Tract 745, purchased by Jacob Gehr, Jr., September 23, 1797, deed granted Jacob Gehr; 100 acres of Tract 746, John Gehr, Jr., September 23, 1797, deed granted Jacob Gehr; 100 acres same tract, purchased by Charles Flickinger, April 25, 1804, settled and improved under contract; 200 acres of 747, Joseph Gehr, October 23, 1797, deed delivered to Gehr; 100 acres, same tract, Samuel Gehr, October 6, 1804; and 100 acres John Gehr, Jr., settled and improved under contract; 200 acres, Tract 748, John Gehr, October 23, 1797, deed delivered October 13, 1802; 100 acres, same tract, Adam Slump, October 14, 1804, deed delivered; 101.88 acres, same tract, Chris Kauffman, February 10, 1803, settled and improved under contract; 200 acres, Tract 753, Samuel Gehr, under contract of September 1, 1797, deed granted; 100 acres, same tract, Samuel Yorty, May 17, 1803, deed delivered to David Yorty, February 1, 1812; 101.88 acres, same tract, Balser Gehr, August 13, 1804, settled and improved under contract; 200 acres, Tract 754, Adam Gehr, October 23, 1797, deed delivered September 20, 1802; 100 acres, same tract, Jacob Gehr, Jr., improved under contract.

Adam Slump and Christopher Kauffman are not remembered. The Gehrs were not only among the first settlers, their contracts bearing date of 1797, but their descendants still possess the soil; indeed, one of the early family, Balser Gehr, at this writing yet remains at the advanced age of one hundred and two years. Jacob, Joseph, Samuel, Adam, John and Balser were brothers, and all settled on farms in one locality. They came from the eastern part of the State, and were of German extraction; with their families they soon formed a large settlement. John Gehr was Captain in the war of 1812. Jacob Flickinger was a German and a Dunkard. He raised a large family, who subsequently removed from the township. One of his sons, John, was a noted racer. He distinguished himself by his fleetness of foot, once, by pursuing a wild turkey and catching it just as the fowl had given up the contest and taken flight on its pinions. The Yortys were also early settlers on Tract 753.

But it was on the individual tracts in the central portion of the township that the settlement advanced most rapidly. James McClure, a young unmarried man, came from Mifflin County in 1798, and soon after obtained from John Field 400 acres on the west bank of Conneaut Lake. Returning to Mifflin County, by describing the excellent pine timber found here, he induced his cousin, John McClure, who was a carpenter by trade, to cast his fortune with

him and together they came West again and erected adjoining cabins. James was married here about 1803 to Elizabeth Chidester, and settled on the farm. From 1814 to 1827 he resided in Mifflin County, then returned again and remained in Summit till his death in 1852, at the age of seventy-four years. John McClure remained a life-long citizen of Summit. His death occurred in 1845, resulting from malaria engendered by the overflow of the lake for canal purposes.

Adam Foust settled on the east side of the lake in 1797. He was a German of some means and hailed from Berks County; he had a family of eight sons and three daughters; he obtained by purchase and settlement 1,300 acres of land in Summit and Sadsbury Townships, and to each of his children he gave one hundred acres and an ax; he died in Sadsbury Township. William Butler, an Irishman, settled in the eastern part as early as 1797.

Other pioneers were Silas Chidester, Jacob Looper, John Inglehoop, James McCray, William McFadden, William Ringland and John Smith. Silas Chidester, originally from New Jersey, had removed to Pittsburgh and came thence to this township about 1800. He settled about a mile south from Harmonsburg and remained there till death, leaving a large family. Jacob Looper was a German and a blacksmith. He continued a resident of the township till death, and his descendants are yet here. William McFadden was a life-long settler about one and a half miles west from Harmonsburg. John Inglehoop was a Revolutionary soldier. He settled in the northern part of Summit and remained there till death. John Smith settled as early as 1797 in the northern part, where his descendants still reside.

Archibald Sloan, from Carlisle, settled about a mile north from Harmonsburg, and died on his farm prior to 1810, leaving a widow and ten children, who remained on the place a number of years afterward. He was a member of the Seceder Church. Samuel Shotwell was also a pioneer.

Joseph Garwood moved from Fayette County to the northwestern part of the township as early as 1797. He purchased from a Mr. McDonald 400 acres of land there for a barrel of flour and a watch. Mr. Garwood subsequently removed to Illinois, but a son, Joseph, still dwells in Summit at the age of seventy-nine years. Matthew, John and Thomas McClure, three Irish brothers, settled early in the northern part. Hugh Gilliland and his sons Hugh and Robert were well-known pioneers of the northwest part. All the above settlers had secured homes in this western land of promise prior to 1810. When the war of 1812 approached rumors of Indian descents pervaded this as well as other settlements throughout the county. Once the scattering settlers in the northwestern part of the township gathered at the cabin of Joseph Garwood under the report of an imminent attack, and remained till two of their number who had been dispatched to Erie for information returned and dispelled their fears.

A portion of Conneaut Lake lies in Summit Township, and within its bounds on the shore are two boat landings and one hotel, affording accommodations for many guests.

Near the east bank of the lake is a cemetery, embracing six acres, donated as a public burying ground by Adam Foust. A log church—German Reformed—formerly stood here. Mr. Foust was a leading and an active member. The Browns and Traces were also members, and a strong congregation existed. Many of the members united with other churches, the congregation was disbanded and the house of worship soon went to decay. Within the township are several private burial grounds. A Catholic cemetery is near the church, and in the southwestern part is the Gehr Grave-yard. At Harmonsburg is a

burial ground in the lot whereon the Old Union Church stood. In the southern part of the village Henry Broadt surveyed a half acre for a family burying ground. A cemetery association has recently been organized, land adjoining the Broadt burial place purchased and a neat village cemetery laid out.

A Methodist Meeting-house was built in pioneer times diagonally across the corners from the present Catholic Church. Religious services were held in it for only a short time, the settlers attending for many miles around. A fire in the woods was communicated to the building. It was soon reduced to ashes and was never rebuilt.

The Beaver & Erie Canal passed north and south through the western part. Great difficulty was encountered in its construction through this township by reason of the great beds of quicksand which underlaid its course for almost two miles. The Meadville Branch or feeder of the canal entered the main canal in Summit Township, and its junction was the highest point along the entire route.

The Meadville and Linesville Railroad passes through the southwest corner of the township.

About a half mile northwest from Harmonsburg is an extensive peat and marl bed. The marl is from eight to ten feet in thickness, and is covered by peat. It is largely used as a fertilizer, and is also burned into lime, of which several grades are produced. The peat is from two to three feet in thickness, and is still in process of formation. It is impure, however, in consequence of a muddy sediment deposited during high waters by a small stream which oozes through it.

As mentioned above, the first saw-mill was built by Alexander Power. It stood about a half mile above the mouth of the inlet. George Dickson built an early log grist and saw-mill about a half mile south of Harmonsburg, but soon after sold to Henry Broadt. He in turn sold them to Thomas McCray, by whom the present grist-mill, owned by George Dean, was built. Other early mills were owned by John Whiting, Cloud Robinson and Mr. Smith. On Conneaut Creek Conrad Keen and Joseph Garwood had early saw-mills. James Procter there operated a saw-mill and bedstead factory. John Kulp had an early steam saw-mill on the canal, and Smith & Hall operated another near the north line. A steam saw and shingle-mill about a half mile south from Harmonsburg is owned by Harry McClure, and William Looper operates another a mile north of that village. A short distance east of Harmonsburg is a cheese factory. Silas Chidester, John McClure and many others operated early stills.

The Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception, situated in the northwest part of the township, was erected in 1852. The congregation here was first attended from Crossingville, and afterward from Conneautville. It now has a membership of about twenty-five families, and has services once in two weeks. Services were commenced in this locality about 1840, and conducted for many years at the house and barn of Philip McGuire. The construction of the Erie & Beaver Canal had brought quite a number of Catholic families to this neighborhood. Among the first residents of this faith were: Philip McGuire, Robert Robinson, Timothy Clark, Michael McCarthy, Felix Duffy and John and Daniel Boyle.

In the southwest part of Tract 747, in the southwest part of the township, stands an Albright or Evangelical Association Church, which was built about thirty years ago. The early records of the church are lost, and the date of the organization is unknown, but was probably as early as 1825. The Gehrs were the leading members. Meetings were held in dwellings and the school-

house until the present frame church was built. Among the first Pastors were: Revs. John Sibert, Joseph Long and John Bernhart. More recently the following have officiated: James Crossman, Abraham Niebel, A. R. Teat, Jacob Weikel, John Arkless, Charles W. Davis, G. W. Brown, J. A. Myers, E. Beatty, B. F. Feitt, John Garner, John Woodhull, A. W. Teat, T. B. Zeller and Rev. Vogt, who is the present Pastor. The membership is quite small, not exceeding twenty. The class is a part of Crawford Circuit.

Harmonsburg, the only village of the township, is located about a half mile east of the township center. It was laid out in 1816 by Henry Broadt, or Bright, as recent orthography has made it. Mr. Broadt was a Dunkard, of German ancestry, and about 1802 purchased and settled on the farm whereon he laid out the village. He was a blacksmith by trade and pursued that avocation in connection with farming during his earlier years. He continued a resident on his farm until his death in 1838. His descendants are still residents of this locality. For many years the village was known as Brightstown. The first house was built by Joseph McMurtry and occupied by him as a tavern. Whately Barrett, George Cook and Mr. Morgan were early merchants. Nathaniel Jones and John Rice were early village smiths. The village has attained no great size, and now comprises 160 inhabitants. It contains one dry goods, one grocery, one drug, one tin and one variety store; one harness, one shoe, one wagon and two blacksmith shops; one hotel, two physicians, a dentist, a schoolhouse and two churches. Two tanneries were formerly operated here, but both are now gone.

Mrs. Knox attempted the first school in her cabin. Carson Sloan was the first male teacher. The present school is graded and consists of two departments. The building now in use was erected for an academy about 1854, and occupied as such for several years.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Harmonsburg was built about 1840. It is a frame building, with basement, and occupies Lots 77 and 78 in the northeast part of the village. The class was organized many years previous, though none of its original members remain to give the date. A Union Church, the first in the village, was erected on the lot immediately north of the present schoolhouse in 1821 or 1822, the deed for the lot being granted by Henry Broadt to eight trustees September 14, 1821. The church was free to all Christian denominations, and the Methodists worshiped in it until the erection of their building. Among the earliest members of the church were John Smith, Watson Smith and Thomas McCray. Harmonsburg Circuit was formed in 1834, and the following have been its pastors: G. Hills and P. S. Ruter, 1834; G. Hills and C. D. Rockwell, 1835; B. Preston and W. Griffith, 1836; D. Richey and C. R. Chapman, 1837; L. D. Prosser and J. Deming, 1838; J. Deming and I. Scofield, 1839; J. Leslie and S. Heard, 1840; L. Rodgers, T. D. Blinn and A. Norton, 1841. The circuit was in 1842 divided into Conneautville and Evansburg Circuits, and by a division of the Conneautville in 1861, Harmonsburg was again created and has since had the following ministers: J. Bain, 1861–62; N. C. Brown, 1863–64; S. Hollen, 1865; J. Akers, 1866; T. P. Warner, 1867–68; W. Rice and E. Chace, 1869–70; A. R. Rich, 1871–72; J. Flower, 1873; G. H. Brown, 1874; W. H. Hoover, 1875–76; M. V. Stone, 1877–78–79; Sylvester Fidler, 1880–81; T. W. Douglas, 1882; Samson Dimmick, 1883. Harmonsburg Circuit now includes four appointments—Harmonsburg, Dicksonburg, Smith's and Little's Corners. The membership of Harmonsburg congregation is eighty-three.

Harmonsburg Presbyterian Church was organized by Rev. David McKinney June 13, 1829. Previous to January 1, 1829, there had been occasional

preaching by different ministers, and for a short time Rev. Timothy Alden had been stated supply, by whom John McClure and John Neal were ordained Elders. Rev. David McKinney was engaged January 1, 1829, for a year to preach one-half his time. David Breckenridge was ordained an Elder May 24, 1829, and June 13 of that year Thomas Chidester was ordained and installed an Elder, and Robert Stockton, who had formerly been Elder of another church was installed, and the church of Harmonsburg was regularly organized with forty-one members, the five aforenamed Elders, Joseph Neal, James Beatty, John Breckenridge, John McClure, Jr., William H. Kyle, Robert Neal and thirty females. Most of these had formerly been connected with Meadville Presbyterian Church. The congregation was dependent on supplies for many years. Rev. Peter Hassinger supplied it in 1832. Rev. J. W. Dickey was ordained and installed pastor October 4, 1843. From 1848 to 1850 Rev. Lemuel P. Bates supplied Harmonsburg and Conneautville. Rev. James Coulter was installed pastor September 14, 1852, and was released five or six years later. His successor, Rev. George Scott, was installed June 27, 1860, released June 10, 1862. Rev. N. S. Lowrie assumed the pastoral relation October 22, 1862, and delivered his farewell sermon June 21, 1868. Rev. R. L. Stewart served as pastor from July 7, 1869, to December 29, 1872. Rev. J. W. McVitty then filled the pulpit for five years, two as pastor and afterward three as regular supply. Rev. W. E. McCrea was supply from December, 1879, to June, 1880. Rev. T. C. Anderson was called in November, 1880, began his labors in February, 1881, and served as pastor-elect, having never been installed, until May, 1883. Rev. John F. Boyd, the present pastor, took charge in June, 1883. He also preaches at Evansburg. The early meetings were held in the Union Church, and during the summer of 1844 the present frame edifice, 35x45, situated just northeast of the village, was erected at an expense of $800. The membership is now about seventy. Silas Chidester, James C. Stockton and J. B. Close constitute the present session.

Enterprise Lodge, No. 72, A. O. U. W., was chartered March 25, 1874, with fifteen members. Its first officers were: J. C. Weston, P. M. W.; Dr. J. J. McMillen, M. W.; W. A. Keen, G. F.; G. L. Kelly, O.; J. A. McMurtry, Recorder; D. G. Harper, Fin.; B. A. Gehr, Receiver; A. W. Smith, G.; B. C. Coolidge, I. W.; Aaron Lynce, O. W. The membership is now twenty-six, and meetings are held every Saturday night.

Excelsior Council, No. 10, R. T. of T., was instituted July 10, 1878. Its charter officers were Dr. J. J. McMillen, S. C.; J. Arbuckle, V. C.; W. A. Keen, P. C.; D. V. Smith, Chap.; Julia M. Gehr, Rec. Sec.; Mrs. W. A. Keen, Treas.; A. R. Smith, Her.; Mrs. F. M. Whiting, Guard; L. D. Brown, Sent. The membership is about forty, and regular meetings are held each alternate Wednesday.

CHAPTER XXVII.

TROY TOWNSHIP.

BOUNDARIES — ORGANIZATION — ELECTION—POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES —LAND TRACTS — TROUBLES OF EARLY SETTLERS — PIONEERS — EARLY DEATHS AND BURIALS—MILLS—SCHOOLS—TROY CENTER—NEWTONTOWN— RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

TROY TOWNSHIP is situated in the southeast part of Crawford County. It is irregular in outline and bounded on the north by Steuben Township, on the east by Oil Creek, on the west by Randolph and a corner of Wayne, and on the south by Venango County. It was one of the many townships organized in 1829, the State Assembly, by act of April 29 of that year directing that the house of Isaac Sheldon be the place for holding election. As formed the township included the southern part of what has since been made Steuben. Until 1829 the three eastern tiers of tracts were part of Oil Creek Township. The balance of the Seventh Donation District belonged to Randolph, while the southern part had been attached to Wayne. Troy now contains 18,407 acres, valued on the tax duplicate of 1882 at $205,458. Of these 3,118 acres were then unseated. The population in 1850 was 740; in 1860, 950; in 1870, 983; in 1880, 1,327. The main portion of the surface is drained by Sugar Creek and its branches, with a generally southern direction. Oil Creek crosses the northeast corner. From the numerous streamlets the land rises gradually on either side only to fall again toward other streams. Beech, maple and hemlock constituted the prevailing timber when the land was densely forested, with a smart sprinkling of chestnut, ash, red oak, white oak, bass, cucumber and other woods. The soil is generally a clay loam.

Troy Township lies mostly within the Seventh Donation District. Most of the irregularly shaped southern part belongs to the Eight Donation District. The eastern tier of tracts is within the domain of the Holland Company, as are also several tracts in the southern part. Some of the lines of the Seventh Donation District were run with the greatest carelessness and irregularity. The Holland tracts to the south of them were surveyed on the supposition that the Donation tracts were uniformly surveyed. In after years the southeast corner of the Donation Tract 1341 was found in the Holland land more than half a mile from its supposed location, and litigation was commenced which involved the title to many hundred acres of land in southern Troy. The difficulty was settled amicably, however, in most cases. Of the tier of Holland tracts in the east part of the township, 200 acres of Tract 8 were sold to R. Alden, of Meadville, in 1806; Tracts 9, 10 and 11 remained unsold till 1815; of Tract 12, John Strawbridge contracted, September 25, 1798, to settle and erect a house on or before the first day of October following; to clear, fence and cultivate eight acres, by November 1, 1799, and to reside for five years from October 1, 1798, for which he was to receive one hundred acres gratuity, at the same time agreeing to purchase fifty acres at $1.50 per acre. The records fail to show that his contract was completed.

Trouble between settlers on account of conflicting claims sometimes arose. Not unfrequently two individuals settled on the same tract, each at first in

ignorance of the presence of the other. Then a contest for possession often would ensue. Many settled on Holland tracts, expecting that through settlement they could hold them directly from the State. On Holland Tract 8, in the northeast corner of Troy, Charles Ridgway, in 1800, determined to locate. He had come from Fayette County, in 1799, and during the ensuing winter he repaired the Holland saw-mill, in Oil Creek Township. In the spring of 1800 he erected a double saw-mill on Oil Creek at the place called Newtontown, and returning to Fayette County for necessary irons for the mill, he left William Kerr in charge, with directions to build a cabin. John Reynolds, of Scotch-Irish blood, commenced the erection of a cabin on the same tract. William Kerr soon learned of it, and jealous in his employer's cause, with intent to dispose of the conflicting freehold at a blow, one evening felled a tree across the partially-constructed cabin and crushed it. Mr. Reynolds accepted the course of events very quietly, and when Kerr had finished the Ridgway cabin, took possession of it. Kerr awaited his opportunity and when Ridgway was absent, carried out the furniture, placed a lock on the door and fastened it. Matters were finally amicably settled between them. Mr. Ridgway operated this mill and remained on the tract for three years. He afterward became a resident of Hydetown. John Reynolds remained on Tract 8 for awhile, then settled on Tract 10, farther south. He was killed by the falling of a tree limb, while lumbering near Clarion River. William Maginnis had settled in the eastern part of Troy, on Tract 9, in 1798, and remained a number of years. He had come from the Susquehanna and was of Irish extraction.

The first permanent pioneer of the western part of the township was James Luse, who, toward the close of the last century set out with his brothers, David and Nathaniel, from their home in Essex County, N. J., for French Creek. Mr. Luse had in his native State been in the employ of William Shotwell, who afterward became the agent for Field's claim, and at whose suggestion it was that Mr. Luse came West. David and Nathaniel settled in the western part of the county, but the country was too wild and desolate and marshy, and they soon removed to Redstone. James settled with his family at Meadville, and commenced making improvements on a tract of land six miles distant, near the Cussewago, every Monday morning going with his men from Meadville with provisions, prepared by Mrs. Luse, sufficient to last all the week. The products of their labor proved to be "sick wheat." The grain possessed the quality, not uncommon in a wild country, of producing illness in whomsoever consumed it. It was consequently worthless, and Mr. Luse sought out a new locality for his future home. About 1801 he settled on a tract of Field's claim, located in the south part of present Troy, just east of the Sixth Donation District, on the site of Liberty Schoolhouse, near the east branch of Sugar Creek. The old road from Fort Franklin to Fort Le Bœuf, made and used by the French, passed through this farm, and it was largely with the intention of keeping a tavern on this road that Mr. Luse removed to the wilderness. The road was not improved as was expected, and there was little travel by the place. Instead, the pike was built a few years later through Meadville. For years Mr. Luse dwelt with his family in the deep recesses of the forest, remote from neighbors, surrounded only by the wild denizens of the wilderness. He was a stone-mason by trade, and remained on his farm till death in September, 1836, in the sixty-sixth year of his age, leaving four children: Rachel, wife of Andrew Proper; Shubal; Lydia, wife of James Williams; and Eliza, married at the age of fourteen to William Williams, and now the wife of Jonathan Benn.

The years passed by more rapidly than the settlers arrived. In 1810 there were few in the township. Daniel Ogden, a millwright, had come and gone. He made a settlement on the gore where Jonathan Benn, Jr., now lives, but secured no title to the land. Amos Messer was another transient dweller in this region. Joseph Armstrong arrived from the central part of the State about 1805, and settled on Tract 1198 in the southern portion of the township. For five years his family lived on wild meats; then pork was introduced. Mr. Armstrong remained through life in the township. He had a family of fifteen children, ten of whom survived him : Joseph, William, Samuel, Daniel, John, George, Sarah, Nelly, Annie and Polly. The family is still represented in the township. Anson McKinsey, a native of Scotland, came prior to 1810, and settled on Tract 1165, at "Fauncetown." A few years later he removed with his family to Sugar Creek, in Venango County, and there died.

During the second decade of the century, few additional settlers arrived. In 1811 Jonathan Benn cast his lot in this locality. He had emigrated from Westmoreland County in 1805 or 1806, and settled in what is now the southeast part of Mead, on land belonging to his brother-in-law—Job Colbert. Desiring a home of his own he came to Troy, purchasing a farm in the southern part off the west side of Holland Tract 221. He remained here until his death, in 1855, at the age of seventy-six years, leaving ten children, who grew to maturity. Mr. Benn was a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal faith. Andrew Proper, of Holland descent, came with his father, Samuel, from Scoharie County, N. Y., to Plum Township, Venango County, and about 1818 settled on Tract 1185, in the southern part of Troy, where he died in his eighty-ninth year. He was a member of the Baptist Church. Nathaniel Smith came from Connecticut about 1817, and built his cabin on Tract 1186. He died in Venango County. William Sheffield, a sea captain, came from New Haven, Conn., about 1813, and settled at Newtontown, in the northeast corner of the township. He built a saw-mill here, now known as Newton's Mill, and carried on saw-milling extensively for a number of years. He was associated in the first store of Titusville soon after, and not many years later, it is said, he returned to a sea-faring life. Edward Francis, a colored individual, known as "Black Francis," settled in 1819 on Tract 1306, near Troy Center. He removed to Mercer County. Isaac Sheldon, about 1820, settled on Tract 1335, where Stephen Cook now resides. Mr. Sheldon afterward removed to Athens Township, where he died.

From 1820 to 1830 a few more settlers were received. Stephen Atwater came from Connecticut about 1823 and settled on 500 acres, Tract 130, in the Seventh Donation District. He was a carpenter, and well advanced in life when he arrived. His death occurred on Sugar Creek, this township, a few years later. Oliver Cowles, his son-in-law, came about the same time and afterward removed to the West. William Williams when a year old came with his father Ellis from Huntington County to Erie County, five miles from Waterford. In 1822 he came to Troy Township and settled on Sugar Creek. The next year he married Eliza Luse, and remained in the township until his death in 1859. He was a member of the Free-Will Baptist Church. Charles Day about 1825 emigrated from Whitehall, N. Y., and settled on Tract 1186. He afterward removed to Sparta Township. George Kees came from near Pittsburgh about 1825 and took up an abode on Tract 1305 near Troy Center. In after life he removed to Cherry Tree Township, Venango County, where he died. Joseph Crecroft in 1826 or 1828 settled in the northern part of the township. He was killed by the fall of a tree, and his family is now scattered. Tract 1342 was undrawn and possessed success-

ively a number of early occupants, first of whom was James Adams, afterward George Evans and others. John S. Sutton came about 1830 to Tract 1199. The above, with a few of their descendants, were in 1830 all the tax-paying residents of what is now Troy. About 1840 settlements were made more rapidly, though there are yet a few tracts unsettled.

The first burial in the township was that of the infant child of Mr. Murphy, a pioneer of Venango County. Its death was due to a severe scalding, received while in charge of an elder brother. It was dressed in a shroud made from a pillow-case obtained from a neighbor, was placed in a coffin split from a pine log and fastened together with wooden pins, and was buried on the farm of James Luse, the only two neighbors in attendance alternately acting as sole pall-bearer in conveying the remains to its resting-place. The first death in the township was that of Mr. Ellis, one of the first settlers. His family soon after departed from this locality.

The earliest saw-mills, those of Charles Ridgway and William Sheffield, have already been mentioned. Barnhart Proper about 1840 erected on Tract 1164 a saw-mill which has been in operation most of the time since. Near it is a steam-mill erected in 1883 by Joseph Morse. Isaac Arter about 1850 built a mill on the old Jonathan Benn farm, soon after disposing of it to William Sterling. Other saw mills have since been built and operated, and lumbering is still carried on.

The first school was held in 1819 in a little cabin erected for that purpose on Tract 1185. The neighborhood desired a school and the men collected, chose a central site, and by their combined labor in a day or two completed the primitive school edifice. The chimney was on the outside at one end of the building and was made of mud and sticks. The customary oiled paper window was arranged at one side and directly under it was the writing-desk, a long pine slab supported by large wooden pins fastened obliquely in the side of the building. The Benns, Armstrongs, Luses, Propers, McKays (of Wayne Township) and Smalls (of Venango County) attended. Miss Peggy Johnson of Randolph Township was the first and only teacher in this building. She taught two terms. Wages for lady teachers were then from $1 to $1.25 per week and board.

Troy Center consists of six or eight houses, a store, blacksmith shop, harness shop, schoolhouse and church, and is situated near the center of the township, within which it has the only postoffice. John Stratton was the first Postmaster, receiving his commission about 1850. The first store was started about 1858, by Almon Heath.

Newtontown is a hamlet of similar size, situated on Oil Creek, in the northeast part. Edmond C. Newton, from whom it received its name, located here in 1847, remaining till his death in 1872. He purchased from Samuel Sinclair a farm and the saw-mill on the site of the one erected by William Sheffield, and operated it for many years.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Troy Center was erected in 1876, at a cost of $1,500. It is a neat frame structure, 34x44 feet in size. The class which worships here had been organized some years previous, and among its early prominent members were: Hamilton Bunce, Austin Mills, William Hays, Joseph Free, Abram Banta, Edgar Melvin, Henry Melvin and George Wright. Until the erection of the church, meetings had been conducted in the schoolhouse. The society now has a membership of about fifty, and is connected with Townville Circuit.

The Methodist Episcopal church edifice at East Troy was built in 1874, during the pastorate of Rev. J. K. Adams, of the Sunville Circuit. The exact

time of the class organization is unknown, but it was about 1850, by Rev. T. Benn, in the Bromley Schoolhouse. Meetings were subsequently held in the East Troy Schoolhouse, adjacent to the present church building. Mr. Guild was leader until the erection of the church. He was followed by B. F. Brown and Samuel Aiken, the present leaders. Since 1877, this class has been a part of Hydetown Circuit. As a result of a revival held in the winter of 1883–84, by Rev. J. E. Roberts, about twenty-five members were added to the society, which now numbers about sixty-five.

The above are the only two religious societies of the township. Nor are any others known to have existed here formerly, except a Methodist class, which had been organized about 1812, at the cabin of Henry Kinneer, in Venango County, and the place of worship for which was removed about 1816 to the cabin of Jonathan Benn, where they were continued until about 1836, then held for a few years in the Armstrong Schoolhouse, in the southern part of Troy, and afterward removed to Chapmanville, Venango County, where the society still flourishes.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

UNION TOWNSHIP.

PETITION—PROPOSED BOUNDS—ELECTION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—POPULATION—EARLY SETTLEMENTS—KILLING BY INDIANS—EARLY DEEDS—OTHER PIONEERS—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION—MILLS.

IN accordance with a petition to lay out a new township from portions of Vernon, Greenwood and Fairfield, the Court of Quarter Sessions, April 24, 1867, appointed H. B. Beatty, Artist, and Barrett Brown and Charles Drake, Viewers, who reported May 16 following, favorably to the establishment of a new township, with the following bounds: "Beginning on the bank of French Creek, on what is known as the southerly of the Kennedy Tract; thence by said tract line to the southwest corner thereof and the northwest corner of D. Haman; thence south by the division line of land 195 perches to the southwest corner of Amborger, also the corner of Smith, Kebert *et al.;* thence west by the north line of said Smith to the center of a public road; thence south by said road and the west line of Smith to the northeast corner of the land of James Johnson's heirs; thence west by the division line of land to a point opposite the dividing line between Tracts 405 and 406; thence south by said dividing line to the center of the channel of Conneaut Outlet; thence down said channel by its several meanderings till its junction with French Creek, thence up said creek by its several courses and distances to the place of beginning." On the 19th day of June, 1867, the court ordered that a vote should be taken July 18, 1867, by the electors of Vernon Township, the largest portion of the proposed new township coming from Vernon, and by the electors of Greenwood and Fairfield, who resided within the boundaries of the new township. The election resulted: 135 votes for and 74 against the new township.

The township thus formed is irregularly triangular in shape, separated by French Creek on the northeast from Mead and East Fairfield, and from Greenwood and Fairfield on the south and southwest by Conneaut Outlet. The

division line on the northwest between Union and Vernon is very irregular. The New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad crosses in this portion of the township. The surface in the central part is high and rolling, and recedes in all directions to the borders of the township. Along Conneaut Outlet a marshy waste, with an average width of half a mile, extended, but by dredging much of it has recently been reclaimed to agricultural purposes, and has proved to possess a highly productive soil. The old Beaver Canal passed through the township, along the valley of Conneaut Outlet. Union contains 7,939 acres, valued on the tax duplicate of 1882 at $174,018. The population in 1870 was 622, and in 1880, 603. It is a purely agricultural region, containing neither village nor hamlet. Dutch Hill Postoffice was established many years ago, but has since been abolished, and the inhabitants for mail facilities rely on adjacent townships.

The Meadville and Linesville Railroad circles through the north part of the township.

Settlements were made in Union before the suspension of Indian hostilities. John Huling, one of the first; and probably the foremost pioneer, came before 1795, and erected his cabin on the banks of French Creek near the southeast corner of the township, on the present farm of William H. Harrington. A temporary fort was built on his farm, in which the few scattering settlers took refuge at night. The tragedy of June, 1795, occurred on his farm. Two young men, James Findlay and Barney McCormick, were splitting rails for Mr. Huling about sixty rods from Conneaut Outlet and a mile from its mouth, on the present farm of H. Woodworth. A band of savages approached, killed and scalped the two men and disappeared before help could arrive. One of the victims fell where he had been at work, the other had retreated to the adjoining thicket and was there overtaken and killed. At Huling's cabin the two shots were heard. The first report was supposed to issue from the rifle of Aaron Wright, a hunter of Fairfield, but when the second was heard the presence of the Indians was suspected. Aaron Wright himself heard the shots, and so keen was his sense of hearing that he knew they came from strange rifles. Mr. Huling died on his farm prior to 1810. His wife, Agnes, survived until 1814, and was buried in Conneaut Cemetery in the northeast corner of Fairfield. Marcus, James and Ceal Huling were their sons.

Robert Wilson settled in the northern part at the mouth of Wilson's Run in 1797, or earlier. He remained here until death, leaving a wife but no children.

The exact date of David Mumford's arrival is not known, but it was prior to 1797. He was born in New Jersey, and emigrated from Washington County, this State, to the farm in Tract 429, now owned by J. Hannah, near the center of Union, where he remained engaged in clearing the land and tilling the soil until his death in 1816. He had served in the Revolutionary war, was a Methodist, and an intelligent, prominent pioneer. His children were: James, William, Peter, Margaret, wife of John Williams; Sarah, wife of William McFadden, and Martha, wife of Arthur Johnson.

A half dozen Holland land tracts are found along the French Creek. Contracts for their settlement were made as follows: Tract 71, Tunis Elson, 100 acres, August 5, 1799, deed executed June 25, 1804; Tract 72, George Wentzel, 150 acres, August 5, 1799; Tract 73, Peter Elson, 150 acres, August 5, 1799, deed executed July 9, 1804; Tract 74, John McDill, 100 acres, August 5, 1799, deed executed July 9, 1805; Tract 75, William Armstrong, 150 acres, September 26, 1799, deed delivered January 23, 1806; Tract 76, William Armstrong, 150 acres, September 26, 1799, deed executed to Thomas Van Horn,

assignee, December 22, 1810. All the above were settlers on their respective tracts. Tunis Elson was a German and followed farming on his farm until death. Peter Elson was his brother, and remained on the farm of his early settlement through life. Henry Elson was a resident of the township prior to 1798. John and George Elson, the two sons of Peter, afterward died on their father's farm. George Wentzel or Vinsel was a powerful German and had three brothers, David, George and Henry, who were also early settlers. The entire family afterward removed to Ohio. John McDill removed to another part of the county, and the subsequent whereabouts of William Armstrong are not known. The above settlements were probably all made in 1799.

Other pioneers of the township who came about the opening of the present century were: James Birchfield, Mrs. Nelly Beatty, James and Samuel Davis, John and William Henry, Samuel Kincaid, Andrew Mehaffey, John McFadden, Leonard Smock, Theodore Scowden, Robert Stitt and James Smith. James Birchfield came from the Susquehanna River in 1800, and settled on Tract 427, in the western part of the township. He was a prominent citizen, an Elder in the old Fairfield Township Seceder Church, and an Associate Judge of the county. His children were: James, Samuel, John, Jesse, David, Mary (wife of Arthur Johnson), Sarah (wife of William May), and Mrs. Edward Herrington. Mrs. Nelly Beatty, a widow, resided in the southern part with her sons John, James and Matthew. James and Samuel Davis were brothers. The former cleared a farm in the western part of Union, and died there in July, 1819. His son, J. S. Davis, now occupies the old place. Samuel Davis settled on Wilson Run, in the north part of the township, and remained there till death. He was one of a very few pioneers who owned slaves in this county. Samuel Kincaid settled on the farm on Conneaut Creek now owned by N. A. Bligh. He taught singing-school in early times and filled the office of Constable. He removed to Meadville and died there. Andrew Mehaffey was his close neighbor on Conneaut Creek. John McFadden was also one of the earliest in the southern part. Leonard Smock, a native of New Jersey, came from Westmoreland County about 1805, and settled a half mile north of Conneaut Creek. Theodore Scowden came from the Susquehanna in 1800, and became a life long pioneer of Tract 428. His children were: Samuel, Simeon, John, Theodore, William, David, Mary, wife of Gabriel Davis; Sarah, wife of John Minnis; Elizabeth, wife of Hugh Swaney; Catherine, wife of Samuel Power; and Elsie, wife of David Birchfield. Robert Stitt was also a pioneer settler of Tract 428. James Smith came from the valley of the Tuscarora, in Juniata County, in 1805.

About 1832 a German settlement commenced, which has continued until at present citizens of this nationality own and occupy about two-thirds of the township. Almost without exception they hail from the Palatinate, Bavaria, and the colony received constant accessions until within about ten years. They have purchased whatever land in the township was offered for sale, but are no longer able to provide sufficient land for the rising generation, colonies of whom have been established near Sugar Lake, Wayne Township and in Missouri.

The greater part of this German element adheres to Zion German Reformed Church, which was organized about 1840. Among the first members were John Kebort, Francis and Frederick Stein, Andrew Kahler, William Hubers, Peter Steir, Peter Weber and John Weaver. Rev. Philip Zeiser organized the church and remained its pastor about eighteen years. He resided at New Hamburg, Mercer County, and held services also during this period at Watson's Run, Saegertown and Mosiertown. Rev. D. B. Ernst of Saegertown then

supplied the congregation for a short time followed by Rev. L. D. Leberman, who remained until 1864. Rev. David Klopp then preached one year, and Rev F. Wall, three years; succeeded in 1872 by Rev. D. D. Leberman of Meadville, the present pastor. The first house of worship was a log structure, superseded by the present frame building. It is located on Tract 429, near the center of the township, was repaired in 1879 at a cost of $500, and has a seating capacity of 300. Services are held once in two weeks and conducted alternately in the English and German languages; the communicant membership is 160.

Mt. Pleasant Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1826 with twelve members, by Revs. John Leach and H. Kinsley of Mercer Circuit; meetings were held for many years in cabins and schoolhouses. The present edifice, located in the north part of Tract 72, was erected in 1858, at a cost of $1,000. The class is a part of Evansburg Circuit, and has a membership of about forty. A Methodist class was organized at the cabin of David Mumford soon after the year 1800. It at first included but three families, those of Mr. Mumford, Andrew McFadden and John Leach, the latter of Mercer County. Meetings were held for many years at the house of David Mumford, and afterward at schoolhouses. The class has been defunct for many years.

James Smith is said to have built the first saw-mill. He was an early Justice and carried on a blacksmith shop. Theodore and Hiram Power kept an early store at the pike crossing of the old Beaver Canal. William Birchfield kept a public house at Dutch Hill. Mr. Wilson erected a small corn-cracker on Wilson's Run, and Gabriel Davis had an early grist and saw-mill in the southern part. The marriage of John Williams to Margaret Mumford in 1802 was one of the earliest in the township.

CHAPTER XXIX.

VENANGO TOWNSHIP.

VENANGO TOWNSHIP — ORGANIZATION — BOUNDARIES — PHYSICAL FEATURES — NAME — EARLY SETTLERS — DISTILLERY — MILLS — RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.
BOROUGH OF VENANGO — FIRST SETTLEMENT — INDUSTRIES — INCORPORATION — OFFICERS — POPULATION — BUSINESS — SCHOOLS — RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS — SOCIETIES.

VENANGO TOWNSHIP dates its origin back to July 9, 1800, at which time it was created with the following boundaries: "Beginning at the corner of a tract of land surveyed in the name of John Fries, on the line of a tract surveyed in the name of David Cunningham about sixty perches or thereabouts west of the northeast corner of the same; thence north to the southwest corner of a tract in the name of James West; thence eastwardly to French Creek; thence up the different windings of the same to the northern boundary of Crawford County; thence by the same westwardly to the northeast corner of Cussewago Township; thence southwardly to the northwest corner of a tract of land surveyed in the name of John James; thence east to the place of beginning." As thus constituted Venango embraced besides its present limits the northeast part of Hayfield and the eastern part of Cussewago. Its bound-

aries were changed in 1829, so that it then included present Cambridge and Venango. The formation of the former reduced Venango to its present limits. It contains 9,829 acres of land, and is one of the northernmost townships of the county. Cussewago Township is west; Cambridge, east; Hayfield, south, and Erie County, north. The south, west, and north boundaries are straight lines, but the meanderings of French and Conneautee Creeks constitute the eastern boundary. The township is watered by these streams and their several small tributaries, which flow southeasterly through sloping gullies fifty or a hundred feet deep. Above these the land is comparatively level. It is roughest in the northwestern part, and in the northeastern, along the banks of Conneaut Creek, it is somewhat marshy. The soil is a gravelly and in a few places sandy loam, except in the northwest where a clay predominates. The timber is hemlock, white oak, black oak, butternut, and on higher ground hickory, chestnut, sugar, and beech. The name Venango was formerly applied to French Creek, and is a corruption of the Indian term Innun-guah, given the stream by the Senecas and expressive of an indecent figure carved on the bark of a tree near its banks.

The earliest settlers of Venango were: William Bole, Henry Bole, Thomas Coulter, Thomas Logue, Philip Straw, Daniel and Christopher Siverling and Jehiel Terrell, all of whom had settled here in 1797. William Bole was a bachelor, and after a residence of some years removed to Sandusky, Ohio, and later further west. His brother, Henry Bole, came to the township in 1797. He was a native of Ireland, but immigrated to America, when a boy. In 1793 he came to this county and remained about Meadville for four years. He then settled in the western part of what is now Venango, on a tract immediately north of Holland Land Tract 94. Erecting a cabin and making a little clearing, he procured a tenant, Michael Hare, for the place, and removed to the east part of the township on the tract adjoining French Creek, just south of the mouth of Conneaut Creek. This tract a few years later he traded to Christian Blystone for a distillery and land about one mile farther down French Creek, where he removed and remained till his death in April, 1848, at the age of seventy years. Charles Stewart had made the first improvement on this tract at the mouth of the run, which still bears his name. He remained here only a few years.

Thomas Coulter, who was born in Philadelphia in 1765, settled about a mile northwest from Venango Borough in 1796, and remained there till his death many years later. His son Robert was born there in March, 1797, probably the first birth of a white child in the township. Thomas and Robert Logue, who were of Irish nativity, came about the same time, and settled in the southwest part of the township. Philip Straw occupied the site of Venango Borough. Christopher Siverling, a German, moved his family from Westmoreland County, and settled in 1796 on the tract immediately south of Venango Village. His sons were Christopher, John and Daniel, all well-known pioneers. Two bushels of corn, a small quantity of beef and a few turnips constituted the entire stock of provisions the first winter, except such as the forest and streams afforded. Pittsburgh was then the nearest trading point, roads were not yet cut, and the dense forests abounded with wild animals. Bears preyed upon the few pigs brought to the pioneer settlements, and for years the howling wolves were the deadly enemies of sheep. The bounty on wolf scalps diminished the number of this latter pest, and organized wolf hunts afforded sport to the pioneers and rid the settlements of a dangerous enemy.

Other settlers soon arrived, and previous to 1810 all the following were

domiciled within the limits of the township, most of them arriving about the opening of the century: Isaac, Henry and Christian Blystone, Jacob Gross, John Hamilton, Jacob Hogelberger, Samuel Quay, Andrew Sherred, John Stokes, James Skelton and James Torry.

Isaac, Henry and Christian Blystone were brothers. They came about 1800 from Lebanon County, and settled on French Creek, about two miles north of Venango Borough. Henry returned to the East, but his brothers remained life-long residents of the township. Jacob Gross, about 1802, settled with his family in the northern part of the township. He came from the Susquehanna River, and his sons were John, Henry and William. James Torry, an Irishman, came about the same time, and likewise settled in the northern part. John Hamilton came from Erie County, and built his cabin about one and a half miles north of the borough. He afterward removed some distance below Meadville. Jacob Hogelberger, a native of Greensburg, Westmoreland County, in 1799 located in the western part. Like most of his able-bodied neighbors, he served at Erie during the war of 1812. Samuel Quay came from the Susquehanna prior to 1800, and settled in the southwest part of Tract 97, near the center of the township. Andrew Sherred settled on the farm immediately north of Venango Borough, remaining through life. John Stokes came from the central portion of the State to this county in 1804, and settled in what is now Cussewago Township. Soon after he removed to a farm about two miles northeast of the borough, where he remained till death. James Skelton came from Philadelphia in 1801, and made his habitation about two and a half miles north of Venango Village. He first constructed a shelter of brush, and as soon as possible built a cabin of such poles as two men could raise. It afforded little protection against rain or cold, but was occupied for many years. During the first summer Mr. Skelton labored about fourteen miles down French Creek. He once bought from Mr. Van Horn a bushel of wheat, had it ground at Meadville on his way home, and when within five miles of his cabin darkness overtook him, and, weary and foot-sore, he tarried all night, proceeding to his family the next morning.

Jehiel Terrell came to the township in 1797, or earlier. He hailed from New Jersey, and settled in the southwest portion of Tract 98, about three and a half miles north of Venango. Mr. Terrell was one of the first teachers in Venango Township, beginning as early as 1810. His schoolroom was of the primitive type, a round log-cabin, with fire-place extending along one end and with chimney constructed of clay and sticks, the furniture being of the rudest workmanship. Mr. Terrell, after a residence of some years, returned to New Jersey. William Gross and others succeeded him in swaying the ferule over the youth of Venango. William Reynolds, who dwelt on Cussewago Creek, taught two summer terms about the years 1818 and 1819 in a cabin on the southeast part of Tract 97.

Henry Bole in early times operated a distillery, which he obtained through an exchange of real estate from Christian Blystone. A still was then regarded as a valuable property, and Mr. Bole paid a good round price for it. Reuben and Simeon Bishop built a saw, lath and shingle-mill opposite Drake's Mills in early times, and it was afterward run by Mr. Rhodes. A little grist-mill was also constructed in the same vicinity, but has long since been abandoned. There are now no mills in the township.

Venango Presbyterian Church is located just north of the limits of Venango Borough. It was erected in 1853 as an auxiliary of Gravel Run, Woodcock Borough congregation. and was dedicated by Rev. John Reynolds, of Meadville. The Bole and Coulter families were chiefly instrumental in its

erection. Rev. J. W. Dickey, pastor of Gravel Run congregation, held services here until 1866. On the 24th of October of that year in answer to a request preferred by the members the presbytery made this branch a separate congregation, and John H. Culbertson and J. W. Scott, Elders of Gravel Run, were set apart to act as Elders of Venango congregation. Rev. Ira Condit, Dr. J. J. Marks and Rev. D. C. Cooper supplied the congregation until 1870, when Rev. David Waggoner was installed pastor, serving until the autumn of 1881. The church has since been supplied by Rev. John Zahniser. The membership is seventy-five. Elder Culbertson died in 1876, and the same year David M. Bole and Adam Sherred were elected Elders. The session is now composed of Jonas Ash, A. J. Sherred, J. C. Harris and J. W. Scott.

Skelton M. E. Church, located in the central part of the township, was built in 1843 at a cost of $600. The same year a class of twenty-five members was organized by Revs. Scofield and Bear. William Scott, Jacob Wood and Jacob and Christian Blystone were early leading members. Services were held for about fifteen years, and in consequence of the removal of many members and the transfer of the membership of others to surrounding classes, the building was sold to a cemetery association with the reservation that any religious denomination may hold services in it. Recently during the pastorate of Rev. J. H. Vance, of Cambridge Circuit, the class was reorganized, and it has since been maintained. The membership is small.

BOROUGH OF VENANGO.

The first settlement on the site of Venango Borough was made by Philip Straw as early as 1797. John Lasher and Solomon Walters purchased his improvement in 1817, and anticipating the location of a turnpike through the place, laid out a village plot. Their expectations, however, were not realized. In 1819 Mr. Walters sold his interest to Michael Peiffer, who in company with Jacob Sherritz soon after built a saw-mill. This, together with the mill privilege and eighteen acres of land, was bought in 1829 by Asa Freeman, and in 1832 John Kleckner, who had removed from Lycoming County the year previous, purchased the mill property and a farm near by. He built a new saw-mill in 1832, and repaired the old one. In 1844 he erected a grist-mill, and operated the mills for many years. In 1838 he had the village plot surveyed, and named it Klecknerville; it was changed to Venango when the borough was incorporated. The earliest residents of the village were John Bender, a blacksmith; John Lasher, farmer; George Thomas, a shoemaker; Isaac F. Clark and Josephus Herriott, cabinet-makers, all of whom had settled here prior to 1840. Reynolds and May, of Erie, were the first merchants, and Philip Kleckner in 1840 opened the first tavern, where now stands the Venango House. From 1840 to about 1860 the village grew steadily. Its development has since been slower.

Venango was incorporated in the spring of 1852. Its first officers were: Isaac Peiffer, Burgess; Jacob Kepler, John Kleckner, Anthony W. Mumford and Charles P. Penoyer, Council; John Peiffer, Treasurer; John W. Coulter, Collector; George Lasher, High Constable. Isaac Peiffer was re-elected Burgess in 1853, and his successors have been: Joseph Blystone, 1854; George Kleckner, 1855–56; S. W. Kepler, 1857; John Bender, 1858; H. J. Logan, 1859; William L. Apple, 1860; William P. Floyd, 1861; A. W. Mumford, 1862; Isaac F. Clark, 1863; William P. Floyd, 1864; W. H. Dibble, 1865–66; J. C. Giddings, 1867; Adam L. Braden, 1868; J. C. Giddings, 1869; A. L. Braden, 1870; Joseph Blystone, 1871; George C. Straw, 1872; C. Bender, 1873; Samuel Clark, 1874; J. J. Whipple, 1875; J. C. Harris, 1876; George

C. Straw, 1877; H. J. Brookhouser, 1878; Joseph Blystone, 1879; Robert Clark, 1880; W. I. Blystone, 1881–82; Jonathan Sherred, 1883.

The borough contained in 1870 a population of 313, in 1880, 347. It now has two general stores, a grocery, a hardware store, a drug store and a furniture store, two physicians, three hotels, a fine school building, three churches and four societies, Benhart & Straw's cigar box factory, Blystone & George's grist-mill, Brookhouser & Shellhamer's saw-mill, and Sherred & Gidding's cheese box factory, a wagon shop, two blacksmith shops, three shoe shops, a harness shop and a cooper shop.

A log schoolhouse was built about 1820 near the southeast corner of Church and South Streets, where the parsonage of Zion Lutheran Church now stands. Charles Fletcher and John and Evan George were its early teachers. The next schoolhouse was a one-story frame erected about a mile west of the village and the present brick structure was built in 1857 at a cost of $1,350. It is two stories in height and contains four apartments, only two of which are now in use.

The oldest religious society of Venango Borough is Zion Evangelical Lutheran, General Council, Church. It was organized by Rev. Colson with fourteen members in 1816. Revs. Frederick Hoyer, Muckenhoupt, Moyerhoffer, Shultz and Straw were early pastors. Among the earliest members were: Peter Saeger, Frederick Zerns, Andrew and Michael Sherred, John Stokes and John and Michael Peiffer. A round-log-church was built in 1816 on the site of the present schoolhouse, but was not completed. Services were held in it during the summers and in the schoolhouse during winters until the winter of 1838–39, when a large frame structure was reared. It was occupied until 1879 when the present frame church, 36x50, was erected on the same lot, on the east side of Church Street, south of South Street, at a cost of $2,500. Rev. Elihu Rathbun was serving this charge as early as 1831; he was subsequently elected pastor in 1837. Rev. Henry Zigler became pastor in 1847; J. D. Nunemacher in 1851; Henry Weichsel in 1855; I. J. Delo in 1858, and subsequently Revs. J. H. Smith, P. Doehr, George Gaumer and E. Cressman. The latter was installed in October, 1881, and is now serving. The membership is about thirty.

The First Evangelical Lutheran Church, General Synod, was formed in 1875 with sixty-two members, who had previously been connected with Zion Church. Its handsome frame edifice was erected in 1877 at a cost, including lot on the east side of Meadville Street, of $3,500. The first officers were: Dr. M. L. Faulkner and John Muckenhoupt, Elders, and David Good and H. J. Brookhouser, Deacons. The present officers are: D. S. Lasher and C. Bender, Elders, and R. F. Brookhouser and Christian Hornaman, Deacons. Rev. I. J. Delo was called in 1876 and remained in charge until March, 1880. His successor, Rev. Eli Miller, the present Pastor, assumed the duties of the pastorate July 1, 1880. The present membership is 100.

Venango Methodist Episcopal Church was organized about 1842, by Rev. Ahab Keller, of Cambridge Circuit. The original class scarcely numbered a dozen, and included Joseph L. Perkins and wife, Jacob Wood and wife, Mrs. John Peiffer, Miss Delilah Mumford, John Terrell, Nicholas Peiffer and Benjamin Hays and wife. The first meetings were held in the old schoolhouse, situated about a mile west of the village, afterward in the Lutheran Church until the winter of 1846–47, when the present frame church, located on the west side of Church Street, opposite South, was erected at a cost of $12,200. The society now numbers forty-eight members. It is connected with Cambridge Circuit.

Venango Lodge, No. 298, K. of P., was chartered June 7, 1871. The following names appear on the charter: G. D. Ackerly, J. C. Harris, Arthur McClosky, John Quay, H. M. Bole, A. Logan, H. D. Persons, W. H. Dibble and Solomon Coup. The membership is ninety-six, and meetings are held every Wednesday evening.

Venango Valley Lodge, No. 45, A. O. U. W., was instituted February 7, 1873. Its charter officers were: M. L. Faulkner, P. M. W.; N. F. Peiffer, M. W.; G. C. Straw, G. F.; A. L. Lasher, O.; J. Blystone, Recorder; William H. Dibble, Financier; G. W. Kleckner, Receiver; A. Torry, G.; M. P. Barrett, I. W.; Frank N. Kleckner, O. W. The membership is now thirty, and the regular meetings are held every Friday evening.

French Creek Lodge, No. 476, I. O. O. F., was chartered February 28, 1876, with the following officers: W. S. Skelton, N. G.; G. D. Humes, V. G.; I. J. Delo, Secretary; Joseph Blystone, Assistant Secretary; Isaac Peiffer, Treasurer. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening, and the membership is forty-four. Sylvia Lodge, No. 122, Daughters of Rebekah, was chartered March 31, 1879, but regular meetings are no longer held.

Myrtle Union, No. 311, E. A. U., was instituted May 9, 1881, with thirty-eight members. Its charter officers were: J. H. Marcy, Chancellor; D. S. Lasher, Advocate; Isaac Peiffer, President; Mrs. Sarah S. Lutz, Vice-President; Mrs. Maria S. Skelton, Auxiliary; David Gibson, Treasurer; M. M Tuttle, Secretary; A. D. Foskit, Accountant; Mrs. Mary E. Faulkner, Chaplain; A. T. Zimmer, Warden; Mrs. Sophia Peiffer, Sentinel; J. L. Skelton, Watchman. The membership has slightly increased, and meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

CHAPTER XXX.

VERNON TOWNSHIP.

VERNON TOWNSHIP — ORGANIZATION — POPULATION — PHYSICAL FEATURES—INDUSTRIES—FIRST SETTLERS—HOLLAND COMPANY TITLES—KERRTOWN—FREDERICKSBURG OR STRINGTOWN—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

BOROUGH OF VALLONIA—LOCATION—INCORPORATION—ELECTION—POPULATION—GROWTH—FIRST RESIDENTS—DISTILLERY—POSTOFFICE—SCHOOL—MISSION CHAPEL.

VERNON TOWNSHIP was organized in 1829, and the first election place was fixed by act of Assembly of April 29, 1829, at the house of Jesse Collum. The territory was derived from Mead and Sadsbury. In population it is the third township in the county, Hayfield and Mead exceeding it. The population in 1880 was 1,919; in 1870, 1,615; in 1860, 1,553; and in 1850, 1,299. It comprises a fine agricultural region and contains little or no marsh land. French Creek forms its eastern boundary, and Conneaut Outlet a portion of its southern. Of the latter Watson's Run is a tributary, coursing in a southeasterly direction through the western part of the township. Van Horn Run flows in the same direction from the central portion of Vernon and empties into French Creek. Cussewago Creek, with the same general trend, joins its waters with those of French Creek just below Vallonia. The alluvial soil of the valleys is rich, and over the rolling lands throughout the township a productive clay

is found. Springs of excellent quality dot almost every farm. Good farm improvements prevail; during the last few years many spacious and handsome residences have been erected and betoken the prosperity of their dwellers. Of industries may be mentioned Andrews' grist-mill on Watson's Run in the southern part of the township, built by Peter Brown and operated by water power; Johnson's saw-mill on the same stream in the northwest part of the township; Isaac Onspaugh's, also on Watson's Run; the steam-mill of Birch Brothers; the cheese factory of Seth Harper in the western part, Brook's saw-mill near the mouth of Cussewago, and Gill & Shryock's grist-mill.

Vernon Township shares with Mead the honor of the first settlement in Crawford. In 1788, when the primitive pioneer band of nine resolute men penetrated the Western wilderness, after a weary march, they reached their journey's end on the 12th day of May, on the banks of French Creek, opposite the Cussewago. Their first evening was passed beneath the canopy of a spreading wild cherry tree on the east side of the stream near the present lower bridge. The next few days were spent in exploring the lands on either side of the creek. "This lovely valley," said Cornelius Van Horne, "now redolent with life and industry, was then reposing in the stillness of primeval solitude, with naught to designate it as the former residence of man save occasionally a deserted wigwam of the aboriginal owners of the soil. They had already deserted its shady groves and murmuring streams, and retired still further into the wilderness." The solitudes, remote from other settlements, were however uninviting, and the majority of the explorers sooner or later returned to the East. Two located in what is now Vernon Township: John Mead and Cornelius Van Horne. John Mead settled on the tract immediately above Vallonia. His first cabin was built close to the west bank of French Creek, between it and the ravine, and just east of the present fair grounds. By occupation he was a farmer. He died here in 1819, leaving five sons: William, Joseph, John, Asahel and Chambers, and one daughter, all of whom are now dead. David Mead first selected land immediately below him, but built his cabin on the site of Meadville, and became identified with its growth and prosperity. Cornelius Van Horne settled about a mile and a half farther down the stream, on a tract of 412 acres, upon part of which his son, Judge Thomas Van Horne, still resides. Cornelius Van Horne, like the Meads, had lands at Wyoming under the Pennsylania title; he proved his title in the Supreme Court and obtained a decision in his favor, but the anarchical state of the settlements on the disputed lands rendered the dispossession of the rival claimants difficult, and securing from the Commonwealth a remuneration, he abandoned his lands and sought a home in the West. He was a miller by occupation in Sussex County, N. J., and served as Lieutenant in the Revolution. He tarried at the island for a time, but during the summer took possession of an Indian cabin, which stood on the tract he afterward patented. In October of the same year he returned on a temporary visit to his mother in New Jersey. Indian depredations rendered the occupation of his tract for a few years impracticable. His capture by the savages near Meadville and his subsequent escape are narrated in the early history of the county. When quiet was restored he again settled on his tract, remaining till his death. The patent for it is dated February 27, 1800, and states that a settlement was there made April 15, 1793. Mr. Van Horne was married in 1798 to Miss Sarah Dunn, of Meadville, and by this marriage had six children. He died at the old homestead farm in 1846, aged ninety-six years.

Thomas Van Horne settled on the tract adjoining on the south that of Cornelius, his brother. Years after he removed to near Zanesville, Ohio, where his descendants still reside.

Alexander McEntire, who hailed from Sussex County, N. J., and was a brother-in-law to Cornelius Van Horne, settled on French Creek immediately north of him. Here he remained many years, then removed to Chautauqua, N. Y.

The Rogers brothers (James, John, Alexander and Matthew) were here before the close of the last century. They lived on the site of Vallonia and were boatmen, plying keel-boats between Pittsburgh and Waterford.

Among other early settlers along French Creek were: Phineas Dunham of New Jersey, who purchased land from John Mead near Vallonia and resided there till his death: James Freeman, who was afterward toll collector at the west end of the Kennedy bridge, built in 1810; William Henry, an Irish tenant of Cornelius Van Horne; William McCall, who owned 100 acres south of the Van Horne place, and later in life removed to Hayfield Township where he died; William Work, an Irishman, who, though possessing no realty, dwelt in the same neighborhood; Jacob and John Work were his sons; Michael Seely, who had formerly piloted a keel-boat from Pittsburgh, lived and died on the Van Horne farm. All the above were here prior to 1810.

Robert Andrews settled in the southern part in 1797, or earlier; he came from Ireland and was for years a Justice of the Peace. John Johnson, a native of Ireland, immigrated to America in 1797, and about 1800 settled within the present limits of Vernon, where he died at the age of seventy-two years in 1830, leaving a large family. John Leach was an early resident, but subsequently settled in Wayne Township, where he recently died at an advanced age. Daniel Dorrell owned and occupied 200 acres in Tract 403, in the southeast part of Vernon, where he lived many years and died. His brother, Jeremiah, owned and tilled a small place just north of him. Thomas Fleming was a pioneer, but not a proprietor of land.

Near the head of Van Horne Run Edward F. Randolph settled early. He was a son of Robert F. Randolph of Mead Township, and in after life immigrated to the West. On the same stream Finlaw Beatty, son of John Beatty, was an early settler. He afterward removed to the east bank of French Creek, about five miles below Meadville, and there passed the balance of his days. Michael Myers was an early and life-long settler.

About one-half the township, the northern and western parts, was included in the possessions of the Holland Land Company, which made contracts for the settlement of most of the tracts prior to 1800. In most instances the settlements were commenced by the parties contracting, but often they became discontented and abandoned, or sold their claims to incoming settlers. The contracts of the company for the settlement of lands within what is now Vernon, were made with the following persons and at the following dates. One hundred acres were usually given in compensation for the settlement, and generally the pioneer purchased fifty or more acres additional; the total acreage contracted for is given: Tract 52, Daniel Williams, 100 acres. June 1, 1797; A. and C. Williams, 100 acres, July 17, 1798; Tract 54, Richard Patch, August 31, 1799, 100 acres, deed given 1803; Tract 56, Daniel and John Williams, 401 acres, June 21, 1797, deeds executed to John Williams and to Jacob Trace, Joseph Beatty and D. Brackenridge, assignees; Tract 57, Martha Mason, 75 acres, August 18, 1801; Tract 58, Joseph Schouster, 100 acres, November 23, 1796, deed executed in 1807; Tract 60, William Dick, December 9, 1797, 401 acres, deed executed in 1801; Tract 61, John Harper, 100 acres, August 30, 1799, deed executed; Tract 62, David Harper, 100 acres, June 2, 1797, assigned to John Cotton; Tracts 64 and 65 were sold to S. B. and A. W. Foster of Meadville, in 1800; Tract 66, Andrew Williams,

150 acres, June 1, 1797, settlement completed but assigned and surrendered for land in Tract 56; Tract 68, James Birch, 401 acres, February 21, 1800, deed executed June 21, 1806; Tract 69, William Butler, 401 acres, July 9, 1798, deed executed to John Irwin, assignee, November 23, 1804; Tract 70, William McFadden, 150 acres, November 29, 1799; Tract 77, Philip Sarber, 100 acres, August 10, 1799, deed executed February 25, 1808; Tract 78, Thomas Van Horne, 150 acres, August 29, 1796, deed executed December 16, 1801; Tract 79, John Davis, 210 acres, December 9, 1797, assigned John Beatty, to whose heirs deed was executed; Tract 80, 448 acres, sold to S. B. and A. W. Foster, 1800; Tract 81, Robert Brotherton, 150 acres, October 17, 1798, deed executed May 8, 1809; Tract 82, George McGonnegle, 150 acres, November 4, 1796, repurchased.

The only thickly settled region of Vernon Township is that which skirts the eastern boundary and lies contiguous to Meadville; Kerrtown, a village of several hundred people, adjoining and below the lower iron bridge which crosses French Creek into Meadville, was so called in honor of its proprietor. William Kerr emigrated from Philadelphia to this county in 1817, and settled near the Kennedy bridge, purchasing 100 acres of land, upon a portion of which Kerrtown has been built. He was a school teacher, and was an early instructor in the Meadville Academy, many of the Meadville business men of to day having attended him. He afterward opened a store opposite the present Kerrtown tannery, and followed merchandising for many years. He died in 1873. The growth of the village has been steady; many of its residents are employes of the railroad. The school building is a two-story frame, in which two schools are held. Its merchantile business consists of two general stores. In 1868, some years after Mr. Kerr's store had been discontinued, George W. Houser launched in the mercantile trade, opposite the bridge and west of the Meadville and Mercer turnpike. He sold out in 1883 to Patterson and Houser. A second store was started by John W. Burchfield and is now owned by De Forest Davis.

An extensive tannery, employing about fifteen men, is owned and operated by Frank Schauweker. A tannery was first started here by Thomas Kerr. He sold the property to Henry Berg, who enlarged the buildings and increased the business. Under his successors, Schauweker & Goeppinger, the tannery was burned, but was rebuilt by the present owner. The Rice Brothers have a wagon and carriage factory of considerable note, and Andrew Stolz is the proprietor of extensive brick yards, started by Joseph Anderson. A brewery is in operation, and a shoe shop proves a valuable appendage. Kerrtown is the place of voting for Vernon Township. A postoffice was established in the village in February, 1884.

Extending northward from Kerrtown, along the hill-side facing French and Cussewago Creeks for the distance of a mile, is Fredericksburg, or Stringtown, as it has been dubbed by its neighbors. The lots were laid out in 1863, or soon thereafter, by Frederick W. Huidekoper, executor of Edgar Huidekoper, deceased. The building lots found a ready sale among the railroad employes and others, and the settlement now embraces several hundred souls. The schoolhouse is a two-story frame, containing two rooms, both of which are occupied.

A short distance above the Dock Street bridge over French Creek is the flouring-mill of Gill & Shryock. A grist and saw-mill was first built on this site by H. J. Huidekoper, in 1817–18. It was operated by water-power supplied through a race from Cussewago Creek. It passed from the first owner into the hands of his son, Edgar Huidekoper, by whom it was afterward sold to the

present owners. By them it was repaired and enlarged, and steam-power introduced.

Watson's Run Postoffice is located in the northeast corner of the township.

Watson's Run German Reformed Church was organized by Rev. Philip Sicer in 1840. Ten years later during the ministry of Rev. D. B. Ernst, who served sixteen years, a church edifice, 31x45, was erected in the southern part of the township, at a cost of $800. Leading members at that time were: Frederick Brown, Benjamin Brown, Joseph Onspaugh, Ferdinand Foust, Samuel Flaugh, Daniel and Reuben Brown. Rev. P. E. Klopp succeeded Rev. Ernst, remaining two years. Rev. F. Wall then preached about three years when Rev. Ernst returned for a short time. Rev. J. H. Apple, the present pastor has been in charge since 1872. The present membership aggregates seventy-five.

Watson's Run United Presbyterian Church was organized by Rev. J. B. Waddle, January 30, 1869, with a membership of thirty-two, nineteen females and thirteen males, the latter as follows: Arthur Johnston, M. A. Calvin, David Nelson, Thomas Nelson, Samuel Beatty, John Beatty, James Irvin, Jacob Work, Alexander Davis, Robert Montgomery, John McKay, William McKay and James Morrow. Arthur Johnston and M. A. Calvin were elected Ruling Elders. Seventy members have since been added, but seventeen have died and twenty-five removed, leaving a membership of sixty. The church building, 35x55, was erected in the northwest part of the township on Tract 52, in 1870 at a cost of $2,200. The congregation had various supplies until June, 1873, when Rev. S. M. Black was ordained and installed pastor, remaining one year. Supplies again filled the pulpit until October 12, 1875, when Rev. Joseph McNabb, the present pastor, was installed.

Tracy Methodist Episcopal Church is an old frame structure located in the south part of the township. Its erection was commenced in 1843 and it was dedicated in June, 1846. A class had been organized some years previous and services conducted at the residence of John Tracy and elsewhere. Joseph Kycenceder, David and John Tracy were leading, early members. The membership is now quite small, and regular meetings are no longer held.

BOROUGH OF VALLONIA.

Vallonia is located in the valley of French Creek immediately above the mouth of Cussewago Creek. It was laid out about 1866 by Frederick W. Huidekoper, executor of Edward Huidekoper, deceased, and received its name from the tract of land upon which the village is located. A petition to incorporate Vallonia as a borough was filed in the Court of Quarter Sessions April 17, 1868. It was approved by the grand jury, and confirmed by the court June 11, 1868. The first election was held June 3, 1868, at which T. J. Colwood received 23 votes for Burgess and George McBride, 15; T. Rowin 24 votes for Justice of the Peace and T. Watson 15. The population in 1870 was 462 and in 1880, 528. Vallonia owes its institution and growth to the railroad shops of Meadville. About two-thirds of the citizens of the village are employes of the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad Company. Among the first residents were William Hotchkiss, Theodore Koehler, H. J. West and Adam Steel. William Hotchkiss opened the first and only store, on Wadsworth Street, north of Race, about 1868. About six years later he sold to E. H. Langford, and in 1875 the building was destroyed by fire. It was rebuilt by William Hotchkiss and mercantile business was resumed by J. S. Hotchkiss & Brother, the present proprietors. The only industry is a distillery at present operated by H. E. Wilson, started in 1870 by Peiffer & Richards, and owned successively by quite a number of firms. A postoffice was established

in 1876. J. S. Hotchkiss was the first and present Postmaster. A frame, one-story schoolhouse was built about 1868 on Columbia Avenue, occupying Lots 19 and 20 of Block H. An addition has since been made and the school now consists of two apartments. The only church edifice is Mission Chapel, a branch of Christ Protestant Episcopal Church of Meadville. It is located east of Wadsworth Street near the bank of French Creek and was erected in 1881 at a cost of $1,400 during the rectorship of Rev. G. A. Carstensen. Twelve or fourteen familes of this denomination reside in Vallonia. They worship regularly in Christ Church and only occasional services are held in Mission Chapel.

CHAPTER XXXI.

WAYNE TOWNSHIP.

FORMATION—LIMITS—POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—SUGAR LAKE—INDIANS—RATTLESNAKES—DEER—WILD ANIMALS—TITLES—EARLY SETTLERS—MILLS—SCHOOLS—DECARDVILLE—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

WAYNE TOWNSHIP was formed in 1809. Its original limits included, besides all of present Wayne and East Fairfield, a strip about three miles wide off the southern parts of Mead, Randolph and Troy. Of this large scope, three times the present size of Wayne, the population in 1820 was 650. The township was reduced to its present limits in 1829. It now includes 19,821 acres of land, 1,166 of which are unseated. The population in 1850 was 882; in 1860, 1,320; in 1870, 1,464; in 1880, 1,597. The township is located in the southern part of the county. It is bounded on the west by Fairfield and East Fairfield Townships, on the north by Randolph and a corner of Mead, on the south by Venango County, and on the east by Venango County and a corner of Troy Township. In outline it roughly approximates a right angled triangle, the hypothenuse of which facing southeast consists of a series of lines at right angles to each other.

French Creek crosses the southwest corner. Little Sugar Creek enters in the northwest from East Fairfield and returns to the same in the southwest part. It is met in Wayne by Deckard's Run, which flows northwesterly. Sugar Lake Creek passes by a southeasterly course through the eastern part. Each of these streams has numerous tributaries, which thread the township in every direction, and everywhere may be found springs of excellent quality and copious flow. The surface is rough and hilly. Sandstone outcrops in many places and often renders tillage difficult. The best land lies along the streams. The valley of Sugar Lake Inlet broadens almost to a mile, and much of it is low and marshy. Pine and hemlock here grew profusely, but most of it has been culled for the saw-mills. These trees are also found in great quantities along Little Sugar Creek and other streams in the township. Other varieties of prevalent timber were white and red oak, beech, chestnut, sugar, poplar, bass and cucumber.

Sugar Lake, a beautiful sheet of water having a surface exceeding 100 acres, lies in the northeast part. It is fed by Sugar Lake Creek or Sugar Lake Inlet as the stream is also known. The lake is surrounded by low hills, and when first known had a depth of more than thirty feet, twelve or thirteen feet

in excess of its present depth. Its height above Lake Erie is 704 feet. The lake was in early times a renowned hunting and fishing place. Pickerel, weighing sometimes from eighteen to twenty pounds, black bass, yellow perch, rock bass, sun fish and suckers thronged its waters in much greater numbers than now. Ducks and geese were plenty and all kinds of forest game abounded in the vicinity. Long after the first white men came the Indians encamped at the foot of the hill at the outlet and pursued their favorite pastimes. They were friendly and well behaved, and were not known to have molested the corn fields or potato patches of the pioneers. If grain or vegetable was wanted the owner was first asked for it, and rarely did a settler refuse to embellish the cuisine of his dusky neighbors with a pumpkin or mess of turnips. The natives usually repaid such kindnesses with a luscious offering of bear meat or other wild game. Rattlesnakes were quite numerous in the vicinity of the lake as well as elsewhere in early times, and were quite a dangerous pest. On the west side of the lake in a clump of young hemlocks near a spring was a large den of the reptiles, and it was a long time before the snakes were vanquished. Horses were not unfrequently bitten, usually on the nose. Pea vine grew thick upon the ground and was a favorite pasturage, but the rattlesnake often lurked in coils beneath its foliage and repaid intrusion with its poisonous fangs.

Deer hunting was pursued with great success on the lake and creek, the hunter approaching the unsuspecting animal by means of a canoe. A bark lantern was made with two apertures for candles and fastened to a board. The board was attached to the prow of the canoe and the lighted candles cast a gleam over all objects in front, but the boat and its contents were concealed from view. The game could always be approached in this manner to within easy range. and the hunter was unfortunate or unskillful who failed to shoot a half dozen deer in one evening. At first the deer proved troublesome by destroying the crops of grain which had to be inclosed as a preventive, within high fences. Wolves were ravenous at first and could scarcely be restrained from attacking the calves tied at the settler's cabin door. Panthers too were occasionally seen, and with stealthy steps sometimes followed a belated child or woman home. Many were the incidents that happened to the pioneers in quest of game. Many a bear and deer story could be narrated did not space forbid.

The territory of Wayne lies wholly in the Eighth Donation District, and like all lands in the county awarded by the State for military services, received very slowly the western tide of immigration. The lands were not open to settlers generally, except the lots which remained undrawn by the soldiers, and no concerted effort could be made to people them. The undrawn or State tracts were Nos. 112, 126, 1227, 1232, 1234, 1260 and 1284. Long after Fairfield, East Fairfield, Mead and southwestern Randolph had developed into fruitful farms Wayne remained a wilderness. Not until after 1820 was there anything like a general settlement of the land, and even then it progressed slowly. It is not known to a certainty who first occupied the township, but the first settlement was doubtless in the western part near French Creek.

Thomas Cochran, one of the earliest, located on Tract 1294, about a mile east of Cochranton. He came from Adams County and remained through life leaving several daughters and five sons: James, William, Samuel, Joseph and Robert, all of whom settled in this vicinity. David Blair came from Milton, Northumberland County, prior to 1810, probably as early as 1805, and settled near French Creek, on Tract 113 in the extreme southwest corner of the township. He died in Cochranton in 1846 at the age of seventy-two years. Other

pioneers who arrived prior to 1810 were: Isaac and Samuel Bonnell, Nicholas Bailey, who lived on French Creek one and a half miles below Cochranton, Edward Ferry, John Greer, Sr., who lived below Cochranton on French Creek; John Greer, Jr., who dwelt on Tract 1286 two miles southeast of the village; Michael Kightlinger, who lived on the north side of Sugar Lake and afterward moved to Troy Township and died there; Hugh McDill, William Wheeling, Joseph and Lewis Woodworth, the former a millwright and both residents near French Creek and Jacob Waggoner.

The first improvement near the lake was made about 1804 by Michael Dill, who had previously resided near French Creek. Mr. Dill had a cabin-raising in the wilderness, miles distant from any human habitation, and on that important occasion feasted his helping friends on an abundance of the various game found here. Dill, however, did not settle in this cabin. Edward Ferry, who had with his family crossed the mountains from Lancaster County, and had intended settling on the hill above the lake, was induced by Mr. Dill, in consideration of a cow or two and other emoluments, to occupy the cabin and continue there the labor of improvement. Mr. Ferry took up his abode in the cabin and years afterward bought the land, remaining its occupant until death. He left ten children, several of whom yet survive. Hugh McGill, an Irishman and a Covenanter settled in the extreme eastern part, where he died many years later. Jacob Waggoner was one of the first settlers on Deckard's Run. Other pioneers who arrived somewhat later, after 1810, and settled in the eastern part were: Samuel Beers, David McKnight, Daniel McDaniels, and John Allen, the last named hailing from Ireland. William Record came from Allegheny County in 1824. Jacob Rees, in 1829, emigrated from Philadelphia and settled on the site of Deckardville. It was then covered by a dense forest through which Mr. Rees was obliged to cut a road to his place of settlement.

Holmes & Herriot erected the first grist-mill in the township soon after 1800, on Little Sugar Creek, about a mile east of Cochranton. Several years later they sold it to Isaac Bonnell, who also operated a distillery. It has been an important industry, notably so in pioneer times, and has frequently changed possession and several times rebuilt. It is now owned by Hugh Smith. A powder-mill was built in the southern part and operated in an early day by Henry Heath. Many saw-mills have sprung up in various parts of the township, and the lumbering interests are still important.

James Douglas taught an early school in the western part on Tract 1288 in a log-cabin. A frame schoolhouse was afterward built at the same place, and later removed to Cochranton, where it was occupied a number of years for its original purpose. The youth of the extreme eastern part of Wayne received their first instruction in Randolph Township several miles away. John Kane taught perhaps the first school in this part of Wayne in a little shanty on the east bank of Sugar Creek Lake. John Moreland, a well-remembered, efficient instructor, afterward taught in the same building,

Wayne is almost exclusively rural in population. Deckardville, the only hamlet or village, lies in the eastern part and contains a store, a blacksmith shop, two churches and six or eight dwellings. Near by is a jelly factory. A third church building is standing, but its owners, the Free-Will Baptists, have disbanded as an organization. The congregation was organized by Elder Chase in September, 1865, and the edifice had been reared the previous year at a cost of $1,500.

Wilson's Mills Postoffice is located near the east bank of Sugar Lake.

The United Brethren Church at Deckardville was organized about 1848. Quarterly meetings were held at first in barns. Services were conducted in a log schoolhouse which stood near the present church, until the latter was erected in 1855 at a cost of $1,100. The leading early members were: Jefferson Cousins, James Tingley, William Houtz, Joseph Shaffer and Jacob Wheeland. This society has a present membership of about forty, and is a part of Deckard Run Circuit, which was formed from a part of Sugar Lake Circuit in 1880, and has since had the following pastors: 1880, J. W. Lewis; 1881–82, W. Robinson; 1883, E. E. Belden.

St. John's Reformed, formerly German Reformed Church, at Deckardville, was organized in 1846 and held services for a number of years in the schoolhouse. The corner-stone of the present church was laid in June, 1858, and it was dedicated in 1860. The structure was reared at a cost of $1,000, as the joint property of the Lutherans and members of the German Reformed Church. The former declined in strength and in 1877 withdrew from further support of the church property. Their last pastor was Rev. Swingle. In 1883 the Reformed congregation extended and repaired the building at a cost of $800. John Lubold, Eli Moll, Jonathan Borger, Henry Hoffman, Adam Peters, Levi Peters and George Hollabaugh were early influential members. Rev. Leberman was pastor many years and was followed for a brief period by Rev. D. B. Ernst, Rev. John Kretzing then ministered nine years and after a short vacancy Rev. Josiah May for three years. Rev. John W. Pontius, the present pastor then followed in 1877. The membership is seventy-five.

Zion Church, of the Reformed, formerly German Reformed denomination, was organized in the summer of 1870 by Rev. John Kretzing. Among the first and leading members were: Francis McDaniel and wife, James Record and wife, William McDaniel and wife and William McElroy. The meetings were held for a short time in a schoolhouse and about 1872 a neat frame church, 36x41, was erected at a cost of $1,800. The lot upon which it stands was the gift of Francis McDaniel, and is located in the north part of Lot 112, in the north part of the township. Rev. John Kretzing, the first pastor, was succeeded by Rev. Josiah May, and he was followed in the spring of 1877 by Rev. John W. Pontius, the present pastor. The membership is thirty-six.

Lake United Brethren Church is a modest frame structure standing on the east side of Sugar Lake. It was dedicated in the autumn of 1882, and cost about $1,500. A society of the Wesleyan faith flourished in this region many years ago, and in 1843 reared a log sanctuary on the site of the present United Brethren edifice. Among the leading Wesleyans were: Benjamin Beers, James Dye, Henry Sparling and David Holton. The society decreased in membership as time rolled on, and about 1860 passed from existence, leaving the old log-church as a monument of the past. About 1869 Revs. Muncie and Bedow, of the United Brethren Church, visited this deserted field and gathered together a little flock, including Simeon Brink, Andrew Wygant, David Sweet and others, who met for worship in the old log-house until replaced by the present edifice. The society is attached to Diamond Circuit and now has fifty members. Its present pastor is Rev. J. P. Atkins.

CHAPTER XXXII.

WEST FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP.

WEST FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP—FORMATION—POPULATION PHYSICAL FEATURES—PENNSYLVANIA POPULATION LAND TITLES—EARLY SETTLERS—EARLY PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATION—ADAMSVILLE—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS—SCHOOLS.

BOROUGH OF HARTSTOWN—INCORPORATION—OFFICERS—LOCATION—POPULATION—BUSINESS HOUSES—NAME—CHURCHES—A. O. U. W.

WEST FALLOWFIELD was founded in 1841 by a division of Fallowfield. It is somewhat irregular in outline, has a width of from one and a half to two miles, a length of about seven, and contains 6,885 acres. Its population in 1850 was 654; in 1860, 585; in 1870, 503; in 1880, 482. The surface is rolling and the soil a clayey loam. The land was heavily timbered in early days with pine, oak, chestnut and other varieties. Crooked Creek, the eastern boundary line, is the principal stream. The Beaver & Erie Canal passed through its valley, and above Hartstown was a large canal basin covering many hundred acres. When the waters were first pent up on this low land, the malaria engendered proved a serious obstacle to the development of the adjoining country. In a few years the sickness greatly decreased, and since the abandonment of the canal the locality has proved a very healthy one.

The entire township consists of Pennsylvania Population Land. The first contracts for its settlement were made by the company with the following persons, for the following amounts of land, and at the dates following: Tract 767 (partly in Sadsbury) swamp; 200 acres of Tract 771, Robert McDowell, May 1, 1798, deed delivered September 29, 1808; 100 acres of 772, John Graham, May 1, 1798, settled under contract; 100 acres same tract, John Blair, improved under contract; 200 acres, 774 (partly in East Fallowfield), William Irwin, October 29, 1798, deed delivered November 29, 1802; 200 acres, 775, John McCartney, June 1, 1798, settled under contract; 200 acres of 783, William Henry, May 10, 1805, settled under contract; 200 acres same tract, James Calhoun, December 17, 1806, settled under contract; 200 acres of 787, Peter Smith, August 3, 1797, settled under contract; 200 acres of 799, Robert Brownfield, June 1, 1798, deed delivered to Hugh Fletcher, assignee of Brownfield; 200 acres of 817, William Campbell, October 1, 1797, deed delivered to Andrew McQuiston, assignee of Campbell, June 19, 1805; 200 acres of 822, Thomas McClellan, May 1, 1798, settled under contract; 150 acres of 841, William Campbell, November 2, 1797, deed granted; all of Tract 842, 401.88 acres, William Campbell, October 28, 1797, settled under contract.

Some of the above settlers located on the tracts; others procured tenants or sent members of their families to occupy them. Robert McDowell was a resident of South Shenango. John Graham, if here at all, did not remain long. John Blair was one of the earliest settlers. Hugh and Henry Blair were also pioneers. They were natives of Ireland, and Hugh in 1802 settled about a mile north of Hartstown. William Henry came afoot from Fayette County in 1800 and located just west of Hartstown. His first shelter was a hut supported by forked sticks and roofed with bark. He next built a pole hut and

being unable to make a door, cut a hole in a log near the top, through which he crawled in and out. Mr. Henry was probably the first tanner in the county west of Meadville. He first tanned in a dug-out trough, a horse skin and the skin of a calf partly eaten by wolves. The next season he built vats lined with puncheon. A tannery was built in 1806, which was burned by an incendiary in 1818. It was rebuilt in 1819, and work was done at the tannery as late as 1872. James Calhoun and Robert Brownfield were settlers of East Fallowfield, Hugh Fletcher of South Shenango. William Campbell was an early settler and built the first grist-mill, about a mile south of Adamsville. Thomas McClellan erected the first saw-mill, east of Adamsville. Andrew McQuiston was a pioneer and operated a distillery.

Other pioneers of the township were: Fisher Lanty, who came prior to 1798; Adam Owry, a Revolutionary soldier, who also came in 1797 or earlier; his brother John, whose reason was dethroned in consequence of injuries sustained while running an Indiana gauntlet; Samuel Rogers, Hugh Andrews, James Calvin, James Hart, Samuel Hays, Michael Kincaid, Robert Kilpatrick, George Linn, John and Robert Lee, David McKee, Thomas McClenahan, David McGrenahan, William McGinnis, James McCurdy, John Scowden, Rodney and James Wade and William Wright, many of whom were Irish or of Irish origin.

A Covenanter or Reformed Presbyterian congregation was organized with fifteen members in 1804 by Dr. John Black, of Pittsburgh, who visited them every fifth Sabbath, the congregation in the meantime keeping up society, and invariably subjecting an absentee to a rebuke. Samuel Hays was the first Elder, and in 1813 Samuel Rogers and John McMaster were added to the session. In that year Rev. Robert Gibson became pastor, and remained thirteen years. Revs. A. W. Black, David Herron and John Nevin succeeded, and when the latter left, about 1866, the congregation disbanded, and the members joined the United Presbyterian Church of Adamsville. The home of this Covenanter congregation was first a round-log-cabin, then a frame church, located on the hill about a mile southwest from Adamsville.

Adamsville is a brisk little village, located in the valley of Crooked Creek, in the southern part of the township. The first settlers here were the Owrys. Adam Owry was a blacksmith, and followed his trade here. A little hamlet sprang up, and the construction of the canal gave it shape and position. The settlement was more generally known in its earlier years as Owrytown, but subsequently acquired the title Adamsville, both names being derived from that of Adam Owry. Adamsville, as platted by Henry Owry, was acknowledged February 8, 1841. The original plat contains sixty-four lots. Main Street, sixty feet in width, runs north and south, and First, Second, Third, Liberty and South Streets, each fifty feet wide, cross the village east and west. George Owry was an early tavern-keeper, and Frank Owry operated a saw-mill. The village now has a population of about 150 people, and contains two general stores, one drug, one hardware and one furniture store, two blacksmith, one harness and two shoe-shops, one hotel, a physician, a district school of two apartments, and two churches.

The Adamsville United Presbyterian Church was organized about 1852. A church building was commenced in 1851, and finished about two years later at a cost of $2,000. About $1,400 were expended on repairs ten years ago, and the edifice in 1883 underwent changes, which, including bell, cost $1,300. The building is 48x54 feet, and the lecture-room in the basement 30x48. The vestibule in the rear is 12x34, and the bell tower recently constructed 12x24. James M. Blair and Thomas McCurdy were the first Elders. John McMaster

and John Blair were soon after added. James Baird and Michael Harshaw were elected about 1873. A few years previous, by the union with the Reformed Presbyterian congregation, S. H. Findley, James F. Randolph, James Kee, Walter Davis and James Jordan were added to the session. The present Elders are: S. H. Findley, James Kee, John McMaster, James Baird, J. H. Blair, R. C. McMaster, Andrew McKee, Andrew Davis, J. S. Henry and John Voorhes. The membership is about 160. The pastors have been: Revs. William Bruce to February, 1860; John Wallace, from 1862 to 1866; W. R. Stewart, May 5, 1868, to June 14, 1870; T. W. Winter, installed October 4, 1872, released June 17, 1880; W. J. McCrory, installed October 10, 1881, resigned July 6, 1882; J. L. Clark, present pastor, since July, 1883.

The Adamsville Reformed Presbyterian Church was organized at Greenville as a branch of Springfield, Mercer Co., Congregation, and removed to Adamsville about 1873, during the pastorate of Rev. J. J. McClurken. He left soon after and supplies filled the pulpit till Rev. J. R. Wylie, the present Pastor, was installed in June, 1877. William Cochran was the only Elder when the branch was removed, and he and James Jordan constitute the present session. Thomas McFeeters was elected Elder but has since died. The membership is forty. In 1876, or thereabouts, the Baptist Church was purchased and has since been the house of worship.

The Adamsville Free-Will Baptist Church was organized with twenty-one members in April, 1852, by Revs. J. S. Manning and J. B. Page, the former of whom was the first Pastor. The house of worship was built in 1853. Removals and deaths, without compensating accessions reduced the membership and the organization disbanded about 1876.

Rocky Glen Cemetery Association was organized at Adamsville in 1880, with a capital of $2,000. It obtained by deed the burying-ground of the old Reformed Presbyterian congregation a mile southwest of the village, and has enlarged and improved it to the extent of $1,400. It now contains eight acres. The officers of the association are: G. W. Congdon, President; R. C. McMaster, Secretary; J. M. Baird, Treasurer.

A school was taught on the William Henry farm, within the present limits of Hartstown Borough in 1820, by Ezra Buell, an old and very able teacher. In 1834 there were four schools in the township; the houses were all log. Hugh Andrews, Calvin Leonard, Thomas Guthrie and Ezra Buell were very noted teachers in this township about that time. The school at Adamsville was started about 1825. It was organized with two grades in 1861. Hartstown has never furnished enough pupils for a graded school.

BOROUGH OF HARTSTOWN.

Hartstown was incorporated in 1850 and its affairs have been conducted by the following Burgesses: B. Ewing, 1850; J. R. St. Clair, 1851; A. S. Throop, 1853; R. R. McKee, 1854; William M. Williams, 1855; James A. Sheriff, 1856; John Grace, 1857; J. K. St. Clair, 1858; Moses Kilgore, 1859; J. K. St. Clair, 1860; Jason Budd, 1861; Joseph Patton, 1862; B. Ewing, 1863; J. Patton, 1864; M. Kilgore, Jr., 1865–66; W. Y. Mason, 1867; E. F. Ellis, 1868; David Patton, 1869–70; William Henry, 1871; E. F. Ellis, 1872; Joseph Patton, 1873, refused to serve and J. J. Morrow elected; Thomas Getchell, 1874, resigned in favor of J. J. Morrow; R. A. Snodgrass, 1876; I. C. Miller, 1877; Gibson Nevins, 1878; William Y. Mason, 1879; C. P. Temple, 1880–81; J. W. Case, 1882; Gibson Nevins, 1883.

The village is located in the north part of West Fallowfield Township. It had a population of 188 in 1870, and of 167 in 1880. It contains one general

store, a stove and tin store, a grocery, a drug store, a furniture store, a millinery store, three blacksmith shops, two harness shops, one shoe shop, a cooper shop, two wagon shops, a steam grist-mill, a school and two churches.

The village was named from James and William Hart, brothers and early settlers and land owners in this locality. Dr. Steen built the second cabin in the place and Thomas Rogers, a blacksmith, the third. John McFawn was the first merchant. Mr. LeFevre kept the first tavern in a house built by Mr. Hart. Hartstown owed its start to the construction of the canal and since this watercourse has been abandoned it has not increased in population.

Hartstown United Presbyterian Church was organized in 1830 as an Associate Reformed Congregation. Its petitioners to the Presbytery were mostly disaffected members at Shenango who would not consent to have the banns of marriage published three Sabbaths. Rev. S. F. Smith, the first pastor, served until his death in 1846. The next pastor, Rev. William Dalzell, was installed January 29, 1850, and released October 9 of the same year. Rev. H. H. Hervey, the present pastor, came as a supply in December, 1852, and was installed June 15, 1853. The Elders at that time were: James F. Henry, Alexander Henry and William Patterson. The membership was then about fifty; it is now 180. The first church edifice was erected in 1830. It was superseded in 1856 by the present edifice, erected at a cost of $2,500.

Another church edifice, now the property of Zion Church, was erected about 1852 by a Covenanter's or Reformed Presbyterian congregation, which soon after united with the United Presbyterian Church, and the building was sold to a congregation of the German Reformed persuasion. This society languished, and in turn disposed of the house to the Zion Society, which is now too feeble to maintain services.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Hartstown was organized with fifteen members, about 1840, in which year a frame meeting-house was erected on the hill above the village. The second and present edifice was reared in 1882. It is 32x50 in size and cost $2,000. George F. Randolph, James I. Lewis, Vance Cotton, John Hammel, Samuel Cotton, Bennett Trimble and James Wright were early leading members. The charge is connected with Espyville Circuit, and the membership is about 130.

Hartstown Lodge, No. 178, A. O. U. W., was organized July 1, 1880, and now has about twenty members. J. S. Mitchell was the first M. W. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

WEST SHENANGO TOWNSHIP.

PETITION—ELECTION—POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—PENN POPULATION COMPANY TITLES—EARLY SETTLERS—EARLY MILLS—CHEESE FACTORY—EARLY TEACHERS—TURNERSVILLE—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

ON the petition of citizens of South Shenango Township to the Court of Quarter Sessions to divide the township, James Espy was appointed Surveyor and Eliphalet Allen and R. S. McKay, Viewers; they reported favorably April 2, 1863, with a slight alteration of the boundaries, and the report was approved and confirmed by the court August 14, 1863. An election in and for the new township to be called West Shenango was ordered to be held in the Turnersville Schoolhouse, and John Custard and Francis Royal were appointed Inspectors and Samuel Kellogg Judge of the first election. The township contains 4,947 acres, and is the smallest in the county. Its population in 1870 was 357 and in 1880, 277. The surface is level, and the soil well adapted to the culture of fruit and grain. The Franklin division of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad passes through the township in a northwest and southeast direction.

The records of the Pennsylvania Population Company which owned most of the land of West Shenango preserve the following contracts for its first settlement, the acreage being the amount of land to be granted: Tract 810, settled by an intruder; 811, Samuel Steel, December 11, 1799, 200 acres, settled under contract; 812, Moses Scott, December 11, 1798, 200 acres, settled under contract; 827, John Brooks, November 2, 1797, 401.88 acres, settled under contract; 828 and 829, Jeremiah Yoke, December 11, 1798, and December 11, 1799, 200 acres each, settled under contract; 830, John Gamble, December 11, 1798, 200 acres, deed delivered Andrew Betts, assignee of Gamble; 831, Martha Elliott, December 11, 1798, 200 acres, settled under contract; 832, John Brooks, November 7, 1797, 401.88 acres, settled under contract; 833 (a fraction in South Shenango), Andrew McArthur, September 21, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; same tract, James McCurdy, August 31, 1811, 200 acres, settled under contract; 834, William Kincaid, September 21, 1797, 200 acres, settled under contract; same tract, John Snodgrass, November 29, 1811, fifty acres; 835, John Brooks, September 21, 1798, 200 acres, settled under contract; same tract, Thompson McMasters, August 27, 1811, 200 acres.

Most of the above persons were residents of adjoining townships, who made the necessary settlements through tenants, and were not residents of West Shenango. Jeremiah Yoke, one of the township's earliest pioneers, was an old bachelor, and came from Fayette County. Though he owned considerable land in early times, he lost it and died in reduced circumstances. George Yoke, his brother, was also a pioneer on Tract 828, and his descendants are yet citizens of the township. Andrew Betts settled on Tract 830 about 1800. He came from Fayette County, was a hunter and a life-long resident of the place. His son John became a Methodist minister.

Other pioneers were: James French, Edward Hatton, Samuel Scott, John

White and Benjamin Snodgrass. James French was a shoemaker, and came about 1800. Edward Hatton settled on Tract 811, where he remained till death. Samuel Scott, an old bachelor and brother of Moses Scott, of South Shenango, settled on Tract 812. John White came about 1806 from Perry County, and settled on Tract 826. He was a farmer, and died in 1819, aged forty-five years. Benjamin Snodgrass was a settler through life and his descendants are still in the township.

Andrew Betts operated a grist-mill on his place as early as 1810. It was fed by a strong spring, and did the grinding in that neighborhood for a number of years. He also owned a distillery in 1810, and a little later built a saw-mill. Edward Hatton built a little corn-cracker on Hatton's Run, and kept it open for many years. There are no mills now in the township. Henry Difford and sons own a cheese factory in the southwest part. Edward Hatton was one of the earliest school teachers. Polly Moss, of Ohio, about 1820 taught a school in the southwest part, which the Hattons, Yokes, Royals and Bettses attended. Schools were rare in early times, and the children often attended schools in what is now South Shenango.

Turnersville is a little village of about twenty families situated in the southeast part of Tract 827. Its origin is due to David Turner, who entertained high hopes of speedily making it a place of importance. Adopting the suggestions of advisers on the day of the public sale of lots, which was about fifty years ago, he procured a barrel of sugar and a keg of whisky for the entertainment of the attending crowd, but though the liquor was consumed the lots were not sold, and in a year or two the too sanguine proprietor removed from the vicinity, disposing of his property to Peter Doty and Israel Kuder. Jesse Webb kept the first tavern; Charles Davis started the first store; Anthony Hollister, who owned an ashery here, James White and Peter Doty were early settlers. The village now contains one store, a hotel, one harness, one wagon and one blacksmith shop, a school and a Methodist Protestant Church.

The Methodist Protestant class was organized December 23, 1877, by Rev. C. K. Stillwagon with about thirteen members, including John Kuder and wife, Gilbert Thomas, Elizabeth Kuder, Andrew McCormick and wife, Jane A. McCormick, Cornelius and Eleanor Eastlick, George W. Eastlick and wife, and Mary White. The first meetings were held in the schoolhouse, and in 1878 the church edifice, a frame structure, 32x57, was erected at a cost of $4,000, and was dedicated by Rev. Alexander Clark, of Pittsburgh, August 11, 1878. The successors of Rev. Stillwagon have been: Revs. E. A. Brindley, 1878; C. K. Stillwagon, 1879; J. M. Mason, 1880; J. J. Wagner, 1881–82; W. S. Fleming, 1883. This charge was at first connected with Trumbull Circuit, but since 1880 has been a station. The membership is about eighty. Both Methodist Episcopal and Methodist Protestant classes were active at Turnersville, and in common built a schoolhouse and church where regular services of both branches were held, but in time both societies disbanded.

State Line Methodist Episcopal society was organized with fourteen members by Rev. E. Morse, the first pastor, about 1819. The society first worshiped in a schoolhouse, and in 1851 the church edifice, situated near the southwest corner of the township and county, in the western part of Tract 830, was erected at a cost of $1,100. William Yoke, Peter Royal, Henry Royal, John Betts and Mr. Edwards and wife were early members. The congregation is now large and includes many members residing in Mercer County and in Ohio. It is a part of Jamestown Circuit.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

WOODCOCK TOWNSHIP.

BOUNDARIES—ERECTION—POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—EARLY SETTLEMENTS AND SETTLERS—HOLLAND LAND COMPANY TITLES—ACTUAL SETTLERS—OTHER PIONEERS—SCHOOLS—TAVERNS—GRAVE-YARDS—MILLS—CHEESE FACTORY—PAPER MILL.

BOROUGH OF BLOOMING VALLEY—LOCATION—POPULATION—NAME—POSTOFFICE—VILLAGE PLAT—BUSINESS INTERESTS—SCHOOLS—PRESS—INCORPORATION—ELECTION—OFFICERS—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS—SOCIETIES.

BOROUGH OF SAGERTOWN—LOCATION—POPULATION—THE FOUNDER—EARLY BUSINESS—INCORPORATION—OFFICERS—PRESENT BUSINESS—CEMETERY—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES.

BOROUGH OF WOODCOCK.—LOCATION—POPULATION—ROCKVILLE—KEPLERTOWN—FIRST SETTLERS—INCORPORATION—OFFICERS—PRESENT BUSINESS—SOCIETIES—CHURCHES—GRANGE—FAIRS.

WOODCOCK is one of the interior townships of Crawford County and is situated on the east side of French Creek. It is bounded on the north by Cambridge, on the east by Richmond, on the south by Mead and on the west by Hayfield. Its area is 19,328 acres. It was erected in 1829 from Mead and Rockdale Townships, Woodcock Creek having previously been the boundary between them. The population of Woodcock in 1850 was 2,288; in 1860, 2,093; in 1870, 1,723 and in 1880, 1,499. Blooming Valley is included for 1870, 1860 and 1850; Woodcock Borough for 1860 and 1850; and Saegertown for 1850, so that the large decrease in population is apparent only, and not real. The first place of holding elections in the township was at the cabin of Daniel Grubb.

The surface is diversified by hill and dale and the soil is generally of a fine quality. French Creek forms the western boundary and beyond its narrow valley low hills rise and recede into a rich upland country. Woodcock Run enters from the east and pursues a winding, west direction till it reaches French Creek; Gravel Run flows westward through the northern part and tributaries of these streams pierce the township in every direction. The New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad passes along the western border. Three boroughs, Saegertown, Blooming Valley and Woodcock—have been taken from its territory, and beyond these there are no villages in the township.

The western portion of Woodcock Township, lying in the valley of French Creek and not remote from Meadville, was one of the earliest settled regions of the county. Clearings were made and patches of corn and potatoes cultivated before the country was yet free from Indian hostilities. William Jones was one of the foremost pioneers. He came to Meadville in 1794 or earlier, and in that and the following year tilled the soil near Meadville in company with James Dickson (Scotch Jemmy) and others. Savages lurked in the forest, and the daring frontiersmen must work in companies to guard against attacks. They were accustomed to pass from farm to farm, some of the men performing the necessary agricultural labor while the others with rifles in hand were stationed in the surrounding forest, watching for hidden or approaching foes. William Jones in 1795 or 1796 settled in the southwest corner of Woodcock

Township, on what is now known as the Cole farm, and remained there through life. He was of German descent.

Isaac Berlin, of German nativity, was a pioneer who settled on the east bank of French Creek. He was a Revolutionary soldier and one of the few who escaped starvation aboard a British prison-ship in 1777. For his services he received a warrant for a tract of land in northwestern Pennsylvania and he came out afoot with gun on shoulder to find it. Returning he brought his family to the western wilds, but the land proved marshy; poor and uninhabitable. Accordingly he removed to the banks of French Creek about two miles below Saegertown, where he purchased a farm from George Peiffer. He was a gunsmith by trade and died in Woodcock Township, June 16, 1830, in his seventy-seventh year.

Arthur and Patrick McGill, brothers, came to the township in 1795. Arthur entered a tract of land on French Creek above Saegertown and both he and his brother settled there. Both died in 1831, leaving a posterity which is still represented in this township.

George Peiffer, about 1797, emigrated from Northumberland County and settled with his family in what is now Bloomfield Township. In 1810 he removed with his son George two miles below Saegertown and there remained till his death, which occurred about 1818. He built a large house soon after his arrival and kept tavern in it during the war of 1812 and for years afterward. A log schoolhouse stood near by and religious services were held therein by various denominations. This locality in early times was dubbed Peiffertown, though it contained no public buildings save what are mentioned above.

Henry Minium came with the Peiffers and remained a short time in Bloomfield. He was a miller by trade and was placed in charge of Alden's Mills at the site of Saegertown. When Daniel Saeger purchased them Mr. Minium settled where the borough of Woodcock now is, remaining there until his death.

Except several tracts along French Creek, which were located by individuals, and a few in the eastern part which belong to the Donation Districts, the land in this township was the property of the Holland Land Company in early times. Below are given the names of the persons agreeing to settle the various tracts of this large body of land, the date of contract and the amount of land to be conveyed upon full compliance with the conditions:

Tract 140, Edward Ryan, 200 acres, October 17, 1796, deed executed to Rev. John Matthews, assignee; 145, John Hutcheson, 200 acres, November 11, 1797, forfeited; 146 and 149, William Greenlee, 200 acres each, October 17, 1796; 150, John Wykoff, 272 acres, October 17, 1796, deed executed February 26, 1807; 151, Archibald Humes, 150 acres, November 9,1796, assigned to John Fredebaugh, deed executed December 28, 1804; 152 and 153, William Hammond, 200 acres each, January 9, 1799, deed executed; Nathaniel Clark purchased 100 acres Tract 152, December, 1808, assigned to Thomas Rice; 154, Isaac Farran, 200 acres, October 18, 1797; 155 and 156, John Wykoff, October 17, 1796, deed executed to William Wykoff, asignee, for 312 acres; 157, John Farran, 200 acres, October 17, 1797; 158, Samuel Blair, 200 acres, August 9, 1796, repurchased; 159, Henry Rust, 200 acres, November 12, 1796, deed executed to Mathias Flaugh, assignee, June 10, 1809; 160, John Fredebaugh, 150 acres, July 1, 1797, deed delivered to Roger Alden, July 14, 1812; Griffith Carr purchased 200 acres of Tract 160, September 30, 1805; 161, Frederick Rice, 200 acres, August 26, 1797, deed executed; David Carr purchased this tract subject to the claim of Rice, February 28, 1805; 162, Samuel Blair, 200 acres, August 9, 1796, deed executed August 25, 1813; 163, Henry Bossard,

100 acres, June 27, 1797, deed executed January 26, 1807; 164, Jacob Bossard, 100 acres, November 18, 1796, deed executed September 11, 1813; 165, John Ryan, 183 acres, February 22, 1799, deed executed May 29, 1812; 166, William McGredy, 200 acres, November 19, 1796; 167, William McGredy, 401 acres, same date; 168, John Limber, 200 acres, November 12, 1796, deed executed January 14, 1807; 169, James F. Randolph, 200 acres, August 31, 1797, forfeited; 170, David Hunnel, 100 acres, July 12, 1798; on same tract Dr. Thomas Murray purchased residue, 320 acres, December 19, 1804; an ejectment suit had been brought by the Holland Company to dispossess Murray and the property was bought by him on compromise at a reduced rate; 171, John Pealman, 100 acres, November 22, 1796, contract cancelled; 200 acres of same tract granted to Francis Fargus, December 1, 1800, "to settle dispute before the Board of Property;" 101 acres same tract sold Henry Phillips, April 13, 1805; 172, Charles Dougherty, 100 acres, May 28, 1798, deed executed; William Gill purchased 301 acres same tract, April 15, 1805; 173, Luke Hill, 200 acres, October 31, 1800, repurchased in 1814; 174, William and James Johnston, 200 acres, October 22, 1800, deed executed in 1813; 175, Robert Finney, 75 acres, November 23, 1796, deed executed December 17, 1804; same tract Henry Phillips purchased 264 acres, June 15, 1802; John Osborn, 100 acres, May 6, 1808; 176, Luke Hill, 200 acres, October 31, 1800, repurchased; 177, David Compton, 150 acres, October 23, 1798, deed executed to Compton for 50 acres and to John Douglass for 100 acres.

Settlements were made within a few days of contract, so that a scattering settlement had spread over the entire township during 1796 and 1797. For a residence of five years and the making of stipulated improvements a gratuity of 100 acres was usually to be granted the settler, who at the same time agreed to purchase fifty or one hundred acres additional. Many found themselves unable to comply with these terms at the expiration of the lease, and in consequence were obliged to relinquish their settlements, and from the uncertainty of the early State land laws much confusion ensued in determining the proprietorship of these settlements. The land company usually maintained its claims, though compromises were sometimes effected. In a number of instances the settler abandoned his clearing before the settlement was completed, when the land reverted to the Holland Company. Most of the above-named contracting parties became residents of the tracts contracted for, but in several cases were living in other parts of the county and performed the conditions of settlement through a tenant.

Edward Ryan was an old bachelor of Irish birth. He lived much of the time with his brother John Ryan, who occupied Tract 165 until his death, and raised a large family which is still represented here. Rev. John Matthews was a Presbyterian minister who dwelt on Gravel Run for a few years, preaching the Gospel and teaching school. John Hutcheson remained but a few years, and departed for parts unknown. William and John Greenlee came in 1796 from the Susquehanna. The Greenlees are still found in this township. William Wykoff and his son John came from New Jersey and remained life-long residents. Archibald Humes was of Irish extraction. He had relatives who settled cotemporaneously in Cambridge Township. John Fredebaugh was a German who came to this county in 1795 or earlier. William Hammond was an early Justice of the Peace. Nathaniel Clark was a wheelwright by trade, and from the date of his purchase of a farm in Tract 152 remained in the township till death. Thomas Rice was here at an early date. John Farran is not remembered. Samuel Blair, a native of Ireland, came from the Susquehanna and settled on Tract 162. He was buried on an elevated spot on his

farm, which afterward became a public burying place. Henry Rust was a German, and came from Westmoreland County. A German also was Mathias Flaugh, his assignee of 200 acres on Tract 159, who came West with his sons Jacob, Mathias, John and George. He was a Lutheran, and at burials, when no minister was present, was accustomed to conduct the services. Roger Alden was a resident of Meadville. Griffith and David Carr were brothers, of Irish birth. Frederick Rice was here, and his family removed to Baltimore.

Henry Bossard first came out alone from his home in Greensburg, and during the summer cleared a patch of ground and planted and raised a crop of potatoes. He returned for his wife and they traveled to their new home afoot, he carrying their babe and a rifle, while she conveyed on her shoulders a few articles of domestic use. When they reached the cabin Mr. Bossard had built they made the sad discovery that the Indians had stolen all the potatoes left there the previous autumn. William McGredy was a jovial Irishman who afterward removed to Meadville, married a widow and kept a boarding house.

John Limber came from Northumberland County a single man, and at first took possession of a tract near Harmonsburg. Mr. Sterling, an old neighbor with a large family came out, and Mr. Limber relinquished the tract to him, and came to Tract 168, in what is now Woodcock, in 1796. He sold his farm in 1816, and with the intention of settling in Ohio purchased a farm near Mansfield, but his wife dying soon after he remained in Crawford County and engaged for years in teaching school. He died at Meadville in 1852. He was a member of the United Presbyterian Church, and attended services at Cochranton, the nearest point. James F. Randolph was a resident of Mead. David Hunnel did not remain many years, inasmuch as he was unable to pay for his farm. Dr. Thomas Murray, John Pealman, Francis Fargus and Henry Phillips were all here in early times. Charles Dougherty was an Irishman and an old bachelor. He died on Tract 172, and was buried on the adjoining farm of Thomas Frew. William Gill resided in Hayfield Township. David Compton and Robert Finney were of Mead Township. Luke Hill, James and William Johnston, and John Douglass were early residents of southern Woodcock.

Other pioneers of the township who came during the first decade of this century or earlier were: John Faulkenburg, James Fluhart, a gunsmith; Christian Ferst, who came about 1797, and afterward removed to Mercer County; William Kennedy; James Long, who was born in Lancaster County, immigrated to Woodcock about 1797, and died at the residence of his son George in 1830, at the age of ninety-two years; George, John, James and Cookson Long, his sons; Anthony Matson, Patrick and Hugh McCullough, William McKnight and David Ridenour. The early settlers were largely of German origin, with a fair proportion of Irish. The earliest came mostly from the Susquehanna. About 1825 quite a number emigrated from Lehigh. Many of the present residents of Woodcock are descendants of its first pioneers. Pember Waid and his son, Ira C., from Connecticut, early settled on land now owned by Francis C. Waid.

Schools in early times were rare, and accomplished little more than imparting the merest rudiments of an education. To learn to read, write and cipher was to attain the greatest possible results. Betsy Peiffer taught a German school in the old log-cabin of George Peiffer about 1812, soon after he moved into the new hewed-log building, which he occupied as a tavern. About 1816 a schoolhouse was erected near the cemetery, about two miles south of Saegertown, and school was held in it for many years. Miss Manda Dewey, Sarah Dewey, her sister, and Mr. Alden, brother to Maj. Roger Alden, were among

the first teachers. School was taught within the present limits of Saegertown Borough as early as 1815. A Mr. Daniels taught about 1816 in a deserted cabin on Tract 170, and about the same time John Johnston held a school in the southwest corner of Tract 166, now owned by William Long. This school was also held in an abandoned log-cabin, situated in the wilderness, and surrounded by a small clearing, which was overgrown with bushes.

The tavern of George Peiffer was probably the earliest kept in the township. Daniel Grubb was proprietor of a country inn on Tract 158, about two miles east of Saegertown, and later Daniel Wise was host at a public house on the same road, the Meadville and Woodcock pike, but farther south, on Tract 169. More recently the Fountain House was built by James McGill on the southeast corner of Tract 161, also on the pike. He used it as a store-room for awhile, when it was sold and converted into a hotel.

Besides several private burying grounds, there are two grave-yards in this township, one two miles south, the other about two miles southeast from Saegertown. The first burial in the former was that of Miss Magdalena Minium, who died at the age of sixteen years in early times. The other is known as the Blair Cemetery. It was set apart for this purpose in pioneer days, and is still used as a place of burial. Beyond the limits of the boroughs there are no churches in the township.

The first saw-mill was built by Archibald Humes on Gravel Run. Soon after he added a grist-mill in the same locality; it is still in operation and owned by W. S. McGranahan & Son. James Dickson (no relative of the James Dickson who erected an early mill in Hayfield Township) built the first grist-mill in Woodcock. The stones were common rock and were obtained from Laurel Hill near Pittsburgh. It stood on Woodcock Creek and a grist-mill is still operated at the same site by Mr. Carringer. The Alden Mill at Saegertown was also built quite early, about 1801. The township is still well supplied with mills. Edwin Perry has a saw-mill on Gravel Run and George Dewey and William Humes own others on Woodcock Creek. Hugh Bean, also, has a grist-mill on this stream. Quite a number of steam-mills are in operation in the township. Near Woodcock Borough is Humes & Williams' cheese factory, and in the northeast part is Gibson's.

At Magoffin's Falls, in the southwest part, William Magaw about 1840 erected a paper-mill which he operated until his death in 1845. He had formerly constructed a mill on Woodcock Run near Saegertown, where the first straw paper in the United States was made. At Magoffin's Falls, H. H. Fuller in 1880 built a paper-mill at the site of the old mill. Like the old mill, it was run by water-power from French Creek. It was closed by Mr. Fuller in June, 1883.

Long's Stand Postoffice is located on the main road, about midway between Saegertown and Blooming Valley.

BOROUGH OF BLOOMING VALLEY.

The borough of Blooming Valley is located on a branch of Woodcock Creek, in the southeast corner of Woodcock Township. It includes about 1,200 acres of land, and had in 1870 a population of 209, and in 1880, 232. The village proper is scattered mainly along the State road, or State Street, as it is sometimes called, for a distance of half a mile or greater. The name was bestowed upon this region on account of the luxuriant growth of wild flowers which bedecked the valley with a rich and variegated vesture in early times. A postoffice of that name was established many years before the borough was incorporated.

Jeremiah Smith, a farmer, owning land here about 1845, laid out a village plat of twenty-eight lots at the southwest corner of State and Dickson Streets. Besides himself, James Williams, a millwright, and George Roudebush, a carpenter and proprietor of a sash factory, were then residing in this locality. George Fleek, a blacksmith, Henry Marker, a carpenter, and others soon after moved in. James Wygant and George Roudebush were the first merchants. In 1860 the village contained about a dozen families. It is surrounded by a fertile, well-cultivated farming district from which it derives its trade. It contains three stores of general merchandise and a drug store, two hotels, two blacksmith shops, one shoe shop and a paint shop. The school building is a fine, two-story frame, containing three apartments, two of which are occupied. It was erected about 1869, at a cost of $3,700. The village also contains two church edifices and two benevolent societies. The *Blooming Valley Advertiser*, a sixteen-column weekly, has been issued for some time by S. L. Thompson.

The borough of Blooming Valley was incorporated by order of the Court of Quarter Sessions May 17, 1867, on the favorable report of the grand jury appointed to investigate the expediency of its incorporation. The court further directed that the first election be held on the first Tuesday of June, 1867. James A. Heard was appointed to give due notice of the election; A. B. Floyd, Judge, and John Roudebush and S. L. Thompson, Inspectors. The officers elected were: S. L. Thompson, Burgess; Michael Coy, A. Drake, N. Roudebush, George Floyd, Thomas Chipman, Council, and John Roudebush, High Constable. Mr. Thompson was re-elected Burgess in 1868, and his successors have been: Cress Hellyer, 1869; S. L. Thompson, 1870; R. Teasdale, 1871; W. W. Boyles, 1872–73; John Roudebush, 1874; T. J. Odell, 1875; Daniel Smith, 1876; W. H. Hunter, 1877; I. C. Teasdale, 1878; Cress Hellyer, 1879; James Wygant, 1880; James A. Heard, 1881; T. J. Odell, 1882; John Roudebush, 1883; G. W. Barr, 1884.

The Methodist congregation of the village was formed more than half a century ago, and among its early members were: Andrew Floyd and wife, James Wygant and wife, Miss Sarah Armstrong, Mrs. John Roudebush and Mrs. John Robbins. Meetings were held for years in a schoolhouse which stood about a mile north of the village. Services were then conducted in the Advent Church until the present Methodist Church edifice was reared in 1874. It is a handsome and commodious frame structure, and in its construction cost $4,500. The building is surmounted by a bell which cost an additional $300. The present membership of the society is forty-seven. It was formerly connected with Riceville Circuit, but now for many years has been attached to Saegertown.

An Advent society was formed about 1849 with a flourishing membership under the successful ministrations of Rev. Wendell. The first services were held in Cowan's Schoolhouse, about one mile north of the village, but soon after a large frame church building was commenced at Blooming Valley and completed in 1854 at a cost of $2,000. It was erected by the subscriptions of the people generally in this vicinity, irrespective of their denominational affinities, and was free to all religious bodies. The lot was donated by Mrs. Knapp. Early Adventists were Michael Roudebush, Daniel Cowan, W. G. Davidson, Orrin Hubbs and Zachariah Cox. Meetings were held in the Union Church for many years, but the class grew weaker in numerical strength, and finally discontinued services.

Protestant Episcopal services were commenced in the same church edifice in 1881 by Rev. Carstensen, of Meadville, but two years later they, too, were discontinued. At present Rev. James T. Bradford, a Baptist minister of Wayland, Mead Township, conducts occasional services in it.

Blooming Valley Lodge, No. 1232, K. of H., was instituted by E. S. Cutler, of Guy's Mills, October 19, 1878, with fourteen members, as follows: Whitney Braymer, P. D.; C. A. Buell, D.; W. C. Wygant, V. D.; W. G. Barr, A. D.; A. G. Greenlee, Rep.; Cress Hellyer, Fin Rep.; Z. Briggs, Treas.; George Floyd, Chap.; S. L. Wilson, Guide; E. E. Stull, Guard; W. W. Boyles, Sent.; H. L. Boyles, Mifflin Chipman and W. V. Wheeler. The membership is now forty-one. Regular meetings are held every Saturday.

Banner Lodge, No. 126, K. and L. of H., was instituted with twenty-six members, December 30, 1878. Its first officers were Whitney Braymer, P. P.; C. A. Buell, P.; Mrs. L. A. Buell, V. P.; M. L. Roudebush, Sec.; Dr. George W. Weter, Fin. Sec.; Z. Briggs, Treas.; A. G. Ross, Guide; George Floyd, Chap.; E. E. Stull, Guard; W. C. Wygant, Sent. The membership has decreased to nineteen, and meetings are held each alternate Wednesday.

BOROUGH OF SAEGERTOWN.

Saegertown is pleasantly located on a plain in French Creek Valley in the western part of Woodcock Township. It is one of the handsomest villages in Crawford County. Its streets are wide and well kept, and its residences neat and attractive. It is nearly sixty years since the plat was laid out, and the period of greatest growth has been during the last twenty years. The population in 1860 was 352; in 1870, 441; and in 1880, 678. Two bridges span French Creek within its limits, and the N. Y., P. & O. Railroad passes through it. Daniel Saeger was its founder. In 1824 he purchased the farm upon which it is located from Maj. Roger Alden, removed to it from Lehigh County, and almost immediately laid out the town. Maj. Alden had as early as 1801 erected a mill here on the site of the present grist-mill. Henry Minium, the miller, dwelt close by in a double log-cabin, and John McGill owned and occupied land in the north part of the borough. The saw and grist-mill passed into the possession of Mr. Saeger in 1824, and for years was operated by him or members of his family. It then passed into other hands, and is now owned by J. Kern & Co. Among the earliest settlers at the village, after 1824, were: George Woodring, Peter Beghie and Henry Renner, all farmers. Mr. Freeman opened a little store about 1826, and about 1829 Daniel Saeger built a store room and filled it with general merchandise. The Saegers have ever since conducted the store. Peter Shaffer kept the first tavern. The postoffice was established in 1833, the mail being received at first once a week from Meadville, on a route which extended from the county seat to Girard. The postoffice name is Sagertown.

The village was incorporated by act of Assembly in 1838. The early records are not known to exist. Since 1865 Burgesses have been elected as follows: A. Saeger, 1865; Josiah Kern, 1866; J. Saeger, 1867; Mark Dixon, 1868; Oliver Saeger, March, 1869; George D. Horne, October, 1869, and October, 1870; Oliver Saeger, March, 1872 and 1873; Josiah Kern, 1874; Amos Saeger, 1875; George D. Horne, 1876; H. E. Smith, 1877 and 1878; John Westinghouse, 1879; W. D. Johnson, 1880; W. W. Deichman, 1881 and 1882; George D. Horne, 1883, resigned and M. Minium appointed to vacancy; W. Mook, 1884.

The village now contains three general stores, one hardware, one stove and tin, one millinery, one furniture and one drug store, four blacksmith, one tailor, one jeweler, one wagon, one barber one gunsmith and two shoe shops, a meat market and an undertaking establishment. A grist-mill, two saw-mills, a stave factory and a planing mill, a job printing office, a large ice-house, two physicians, two hotels, two liveries, a schoolhouse, three churches and

four societies. Saegertown Band was organized in September, 1876, has seventeen members, owns a hall and is widely known for its excellence. The first grave-yard was just north of the Methodist Church, but about 1860 a cemetery association was formed and land purchased on the opposite side of French Creek in Hayfield Township. The cemetery there now covers about twelve acres, and the grounds are beautifully and tastefully laid out.

The first school was held in a deserted cabin near the mill. Jonathan G. David and Jane McCaul taught here as early as 1827. About 1830 a one-story frame schoolhouse was erected on the banks of French Creek in the rear of the German Reformed Church. A small brick was a little later built in the southern part of the village and afterward a two-story "brick academy" was built on the south side of North Street, west of and near Commercial Street. It was superseded in 1870 by the present two-story frame building on the east side of Commercial Street. It contains four rooms, three of which are now occupied.

The first Lutherans in the vicinity of Saegertown were members of the Venango congregation, organized in 1816. For the convenience of the members in Woodcock Township, services were held sometimes in Peiffer's Schoolhouse, two miles below Saegertown. About 1828 a separate congregation was formed and in 1829 a frame church was erected in Saegertown, on the site of the present German Reformed Church. Its cost was defrayed by the settlers in this region and the Lutherans, German Reformed and Methodist Societies all worshiped in it. Among the earliest Lutheran members were: George Peiffer, Samuel Peiffer, Jacob Flaugh and Daniel Saeger. Rev. Shultz and his son Augustus Shultz were the first pastors, the former preaching in German and the latter conducting services in English; Rev. Elihu Rathbun followed, and served many years. His successors have been: J. D. Nunemacher, Rev. Keil, Rev. Bierdemann, D. M. Kamerer, A. H. Bartholomew and H. Peters. The last has officiated since 1880. The membership is now about 125. Services were held in the old church, in which the congregation had an interest until 1868, when the present spacious edifice was reared on the southwest corner of Erie and Commercial Streets, at a cost of $7,000.

The German Reformed Congregation has a handsome frame meeting-house on the northwest corner of Main and North Streets; it is 40x60 feet in size, and was erected in 1872, at a cost of $4,000. Previously services had been held, since 1829, in the old church on the same site. This congregation originally owned a part of this building, and afterward by purchase obtained sole control. The membership is now about seventy. Dr. Joseph A. Apple, the present pastor, has had charge since 1872, succeeding Rev. D. B. Ernst, who preached here about a score of years. The early history of the society is obscure, as the records are lost and no early members remain. The society held early meetings in Peiffer's Schoolhouse. Conrad Baughman, Philip and Henry Renner and Solomon Graff were among the earliest members. Rev. Zeiser and Daniel Rauhouser were early pastors.

The Methodist Episcopal class was organized in 1839 or shortly before. Its earliest members included: John McGill and wife, Andrew Ryan and wife, Harvey Sackett and wife, Jacob Brookhouser and wife, Joseph Housel, John Flaugh and wife and Isaac Blystone. Many of these members had formerly belonged to Seavy class, which met on the opposite side of French Creek. For several years Saegertown society met in the Lutheran Church. In 1841 a church was built on the northwest corner of Commercial and North Streets, and occupied until 1875, when the present edifice, 40x60 was erected on the same lot at a cost of about $6,000. The society numbers about 125 members. Saegertown Circuit was formed in 1839, and its pastors have been: J. J.

Steadman and J. M. Plant, 1839; A. Fouts and W. W. Maltby, 1840; C. D. Rockwell and C. Kingsley, 1841; A. Keller and J. Mortimer, 1842; I. C. T. McClelland and T. B. Tait, 1843; J. Crum, 1844; D. H. Jack, 1845; J. Graham, 1846; J. Graham and M. Hill, 1847; M. Hill and M. D. Stever, 1848; W. Mouks and T. Benn, 1849; H. Luce and S. K. Paden, 1850–51; J. Flower and J. S. Graves, 1852; J. Flower, 1853; I. Lane and W. R. Johnson, 1854; W. R. Johnson, 1855; J. Abbott and W. C. Henderson, 1856; A. H. Bowers, 1857; G. W. Maltby and J. B. Orwig, 1858–59; E. B. Lane, 1860; P. W. Sherwood, 1861–62; N. Norton and L. D. Williams, 1863; G. M. Eberman, 1864–65; J. K. Hallock, 1866–67; N. Norton, 1868–69–70; J. Flower, 1871; G. H. Brown, 1872–73; J. F. Perry, 1874–75; D. W. Wampler, 1876–77; I. D. Darling, 1878–79–80; D. S. Steadman, 1881–82; James Clyde, 1883. The circuit now comprises besides Saegertown Church, Blooming Valley and Hamlin's, of Hayfield Township.

Saegertown Lodge, No. 700, Good Templars, was organized in 1870 and disbanded in 1874. It was reorganized November 12, 1877, with seventy members and the following first officers: B. G. David, C. T.; Mrs. A. M. McGill, V. T.; Prof. J. M. Morrison, Sec.; Mrs. H. Sackett, Fin. Sec.; John Seavy, Treas.; Rev. D. W. Wampler, Chaplain; Don E. Schanck, Marshal; Ellen Hunter, I. G.; J. R. Shoppart, O. G.; Ambro Whipple, P. C. T.; A. Mook, Lodge Deputy. Fifty members still remain and meet every Friday evening.

French Creek Lodge, No. 2371, K. of H., was instituted February 15, 1881, with thirty-two members and the following officers: J. T. Sackett, Dictator; John Flaugh, V. D.; A. B. Floyd, Ass't D.; W. F. Moyer, Reporter; W. E. Yost, Fin. Rep.; E. L. Russell, Treas.; A. M. McGill, Guide; J. R. Mosier, Chaplain; C. W. Yost, Guardian; Jacob Fleisher, Sentinel; C. W. Robinson, P. D. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening, and the membership is forty-one.

Saegertown Lodge, No. 362, E. A. U., was organized September 12, 1881, with five members: C. Yost, James Seavy, Nellie C. Seavy, A. Mook and P. Moon. The lodge now numbers twenty-five members, and meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

A lodge of the State Police is also active at Saegertown.

BOROUGH OF WOODCOCK.

Woodcock Borough is located in the valley of Gravel Run, in the northern part of Woodcock Township. It had in 1870 a population of 220, which in 1880 had decreased to 184. The village owes its origin to Henry Minium, by whom it was laid out and christened Rockville in the spring of 1819, thus making it one of the oldest villages in the county. The Meadville & Erie Turnpike was constructed in 1818, and it was owing to this fact that Mr. Minium, owning land through which it passed, conceived the idea of founding a village. He was then a miller at the site of Saegertown, and did not remove to Rockville until about 1824. Jacob Kepler had in 1818 purchased a lot from him, and was the only resident on the plat when it was surveyed in 1819. Mr. Kepler was a shoemaker, and cobbled for the settlers in his locality. After Rockville was started he erected the first hotel and kept the first postoffice, and in view of his local prominence the place was known as Keplertown. Mr. Minium made a public sale of the village lots, and under the persuasive accents of the auctioneer, Derk Jan Newenhausen, "Dutch John," as he was familiarly known, the lots were nearly all disposed of at a handsome figure for those times. The travel on the

turnpike was then prodigious. It was the main thoroughfare, and the route pursued by hundreds of incoming settlers seeking Western homes. Daniel Shaffer was the first blacksmith. John Scott and Mr. Whitley kept the first stores, which at first were very small. The village thrived, but by the construction of the plank road on the opposite side of French Creek it received its first check, the travel being drawn thitherward. The New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad passes within a mile of the village, but has proved of little service in developing it.

Rockville was incorporated as a borough and named Woodcock, by an enactment of the Assembly in 1844. George Pond, a chair-maker, was its first Burgess. Recent Burgesses have been as follows: 1868, S. S. Minium; 1869–70, A. Logan; 1871, D. Rupert; 1872, S. S. Minium; 1874, David Rupert; 1875, C. Schultz; 1876–77, S. S. Minium; 1878, D. Rupert; 1879–82, S. S. Minium; 1883, C. W. Knerr; 1884, C. C. Stalker.

The village now contains three general stores, one drug store, one furniture store, one hotel, two blacksmith, one harness, one shoe and two wagon-shops, Perkins & Shaffer's steam saw-mill, three physicians, a two-story frame school building, three churches and two orders.

Woodcock Borough Lodge, No. 951, K. of H., was organized with twenty-three members March 13, 1878. B. F. Wales was its first Past Dictator and C. W. Knerr its first Dictator. The membership is now thirty-five and meetings are held each alternate Saturday.

Magnolia Lodge, No. 249, K. and L. of H., was instituted February 12, 1880, with twenty-five members, and now numbers twenty-seven. Its first Past Protector was C. Schultz; its first Protector, Edward Perry. Regular meetings are held each alternate Tuesday.

Gravel Run Presbyterian Church was organized about 1809. Rev. John Matthews was the first pastor. He was installed pastor of Waterford and Gravel Run Churches October 17, 1810, and was released from his charge of the latter November 8, 1814. The following have since served as pastors: Rev. Peter Hassinger from October 1, 1828, to 1832; Rev. Alexander Cunningham, from October 5, 1843 to 1851; Rev. James W. Dickey was installed April 19, 1854, and served many years. The present pastor is Rev. William Grassie, who came in 1877, succeeding Rev. W. B. McCarroll. In 1838 the congregation was divided into Old School and New School branches.

In 1854 each branch erected a house of worship: the New School a frame with basement, in which the Protestant Episcopal Congregation now worships, and the Old School, a brick structure, which is still occupied. Rev. George W. Hampson was pastor of the New School branch for seventeen years until his death in 1869, and soon after the two divisions re-united into one congregation. The membership is now about 125.

Rockville Methodist Episcopal Church was organized as the Gravel Run Church in 1810, by Rev. Joshua Monroe, at the dwelling-house of John Shearer, situated in the southwest corner of Cambridge Township. In 1817 a log meeting house was built in Cambridge Township, immediately northwest of the Woodcock Borough limits, and services held therein until 1839, when a brick edifice was erected within the borough at a cost of $1,800. It has ever since been the house of worship. In 1879 a parsonage was erected at Woodcock at a cost of $700. An old parsonage stood in the village but has not been occupied since 1870. In numbers the society exceeds 100. Rockville Circuit was organized in 1844, and its pastors have since been: J. Graham and F. Morse, 1844; J. Graham and L. Blackford, 1845; D. H. Jack, 1846–47; A. Callender and J. Hildebrand, 1848; M. H. Bettes, 1849; O. P. Brown, 1850; J. McLean,

1851; S. K. Paden, 1852; B. Marsteller and S. K. Paden, 1853; C. R. Chapman, 1854–55; A. H. Bowers, 1856; I. Lane, 1857–58; P. W. Sherwood and J. M. DeWoody, 1859; W. A. Clark, 1860; J. Wrigglesworth, 1861–62; E. Wade, 1863; S. Holden, 1864; J. W. Hill, 1865–66; G. M. Eberman, 1867–68; J. F. Perry, 1869–70; R. C. Smith, 1871–73; H. M. Chamberlain, 1874–76; J. H. Vance, 1877; J. L. Mechlin, 1878–80; J. F. Perry, 1881–83. Besides Woodcock the circuit now embraces the following appointments: New Richmond, Old Richmond, Van Scoders, Jarvis and Pinneys.

The Protestant Episcopal Congregation was organized in the autumn of 1881 by Rev. E. G. Carstensen, of Meadville, who supplied the church until July, 1882. Revs. Steward and Maycock preached for short periods, and since September, 1883, Rev. Lewis, of Meadville, has filled the pulpit each alternate Sabbath. The services are conducted in the old New School Presbyterian Church. The membership is about twenty.

Woodcock Grange, No. 639, was instituted in 1875. In 1878 a Granger's fair was proposed, to which each member should bring a choice product of his farm, and for their mutual edification describe the course adopted to bring the product to its high degree of excellence. In the autumn of that year the first fair was held in the Grange Hall, but only five members responded. The next year a much greater variety of articles was exhibited, the condition of describing the method of farming being withdrawn, and besides a large quantity of grain, fruit, etc., one calf was on exhibition. The third and fourth years witnessed increased interest and attendance, but the Grange languished.

A stock company was formed to perpetuate the fair thus humbly started, as mentioned above, commodious grounds were leased just west of the Borough of Woodcock, and two very successful fairs have been held there.